THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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HAMILTON LEVEL WITH SCHUMACHER'S WIN RECORD

Lewis Hamilton, who once saw Michael Schumacher's record of 91 wins as unbeatable, has now matched it. Schumacher's son Mick presented Hamilton with one of his father's old helmets after the Briton took a record-equaling 91st win at the Eifel Grand Prix at Nurburg. The German has required care since his 2013 skiing accident. **P13**

Charges against top court judge put CJI in a spot

Opinion divided on whether he should call a full SC court or form a panel to study matter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

ANDHRA Pradesh chief minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy's letter to Chief Justice of India S A Bobde, in which he levelled serious allegations Justice N V Ramana, has perhaps put the CJI in a position no other head of India's judiciary has faced.

Unlike anonymous complaints from the public against members of the judiciary, this letter to the CJI has been written by a person holding a constitutional position against another person, who also holds a similar post.

In the face of this situation, Chief Justice Bobde may have no option but to take cognisance of the letter one way or the other, especially as the matter is now in the public domain after the letter was shared with the media by the chief minister's principal adviser Ajeya Kallam on Saturday.

But opinions are divided over the options before the CJI to address the issue. One set of apex court judges said as per procedure, CJI Bobde will have to place the complaint before the full court of the Supreme Court for its consideration.

These judges said if a complaint is received against a sitting judge, it needs to be placed before all judges of the court, who will then take a collective decision on the matter. "The fact is that the complaint has been made by a Chief Minister, it is expected of the CJI to place the matter before the full court of the Supreme Court so that an appropriate response can be initiated," said a former judge.

This procedure is also contained in the principles of judicial conduct adopted by the SC's full court two decades ago, which clearly laid down that any complaint against sitting judges would have to be considered by all the judges of the highest court.

The need for a full court sitting was considered necessary to keep the judiciary's image above suspicion.

CONTINUED ON: P7

NO PRECEDENT TO FALL BACK UPON

Whatever be the CJI's next step, he has no precedent to fall back upon. In his letter, Jagan alleged that Justice Ramana's family members were involved in "questionable" land deals relating to the Amaravati project and that he interfered with the functioning of the Andhra high court.

EXPRESS READ

Music composer Rajan passes away at 87

New Delhi: Noted Kannada film music composer Rajan (of the Rajan-Nagendra musical duo fame) passed away after a cardiac arrest at his residence in the city on Sunday night. He was 87. **P7**

GST Council to discuss compensation today

New Delhi: The GST Council in its meeting on Monday is likely to discuss the suggestion of non-BJP ruled states of setting up a ministerial panel to develop consensus on the issue of compensation, sources said.

Republic TV's CEO, COO grilled by Mumbai cops

Mumbai: The CEO and COO of Republic TV were questioned by Mumbai police on Sunday over the TRP manipulation case. **P10**

WITH THIS ISSUE
THE ESSENTIAL CAMPUS DIGEST edex YOUR LIFE COACH
34 PAGES, INCLUDING 16 OF edex (TABLOID), 4 of City Express

3-week mid-term holiday for schools

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

WITH growing concerns over the Covid-19 surge in the state, the Education Department has announced mid-term holidays for three weeks starting October 12 until October 30. Even teachers will be given leave during this period. The suspension of classes is applicable to online classes as well. This effectively means that a decision on reopening schools is deferred until after October 30.

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Sunday ordered a three-week holiday for schools in the state from October 12. The holidays are applicable to government-run, aided and unaided private schools, according to department officials. The Education Department also suspended the Vidyagama project on Saturday until further notice.

Yediyurappa said the classes and Vidyagama project have been suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic. "Several teachers have been reported to be infected by the virus. Hence, students and teachers will have three weeks of holiday," he ordered while also wishing teachers and children "A Happy Dussehra".

The suspension applies to both online and offline classes, the in-charge, Principal Secretary, Department of Primary and Secondary Education, Tushar Girinath, told *TNIE*.

D Shashi Kumar, general secretary of Karnataka Associated Managements of English Mediums Schools (KAMS) has asked Tushar Girinath, to issue official orders stating that the holidays are applicable to even private unaided schools and online classes. **P7**

RAFALUTION
Rafael Nadal decimated World No 1 Novak Djokovic 6-0, 6-2, 7-5 in the French Open final on Sunday. This was his 20th Grand Slam title, equalling Roger Federer's all-time men's record
NO OF GRAND SLAM TITLES (M)
20 Roger Federer
20 Rafael Nadal
17 Novak Djokovic
P13

Modi slams Oppn for attempt to derail reforms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday lashed out at the critics of his government's agri-reforms, saying they do not want farmers to become self-reliant.

"Many people don't want villages, the poor, the farmer and the labourer to be 'aatmanirbhar' (self-reliant)," he said, speaking at a programme to launch the physical distribution of property cards under the 'SVAMITVA' scheme.

The PM said his government's measures to empower farmers, including by directly transferring money to them, have hit the middleman hard by wiping out their source of "illegitimate earnings". He charged that the opposition strengthened its power through the middlemen. "They are upset, not for farmers, but for themselves. For ages, they strengthened their power through middlemen," the PM said.

"The beneficiaries will have a right, a legal document of owning their houses. The country has taken another major step towards an Atmanirbhar Bharat," the Prime Minister said.

CBI takes charge; HC to hear Hathras victim's kin

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

A day after the Centre handed over the probe into the alleged gang-rape and murder of a 20-year-old Dalit girl in Hathras district to the CBI, the agency registered a case at its Anti-Corruption Branch in Ghaziabad under relevant sections of the IPC and the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act on Sunday.

It filed its first information report (FIR) against main accused Sandeep of Boolgarhi village based on a complaint lodged by the victim's brother at Chandpa police station in Hathras on September 14.

He had alleged that the accused tried to strangulate her in a millet field.

The case was earlier being probed by a three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) set up by the UP government on September 30. On the SIT's radar was also Dr Rajkumari Bansal, a member of the Jabalpur Medical College's faculty. She had stayed with the victim's family from October 4-6, posing as the deceased girl's sister-in-law. "I'm India's daughter. I'll go back to the family again and fight for them," Bansal told this newspaper. She also faces possible disciplinary action by her college.

The CBI named Seema Pahuja, Deputy Superintendent of Police, ACB (Ghaziabad), as the Investigating Officer for the probe. The team is likely to reach Hathras soon and take over the the case from the district police and the SIT.

Meanwhile, the victim's family members will appear before the Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court on Monday. The court on October 1 had asked them to appear in person to apprise it of their version of the incident. **P10**

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ALMANAC TODAY

Monday: 12/10/2020 • Year: Sarvari • Ayana: Dakshinayana • Ritu: Sharad • Masa: Adhika Ashwayuja • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Dashami 11.02 am • Nakshatra: Aslesha 8.26 pm • Moon in Simha Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am • Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

BENGALURU WEATHER

MIN 20°C | MAX 24°C

FORECAST: Light showers. Mostly cloudy

Sunrise 6.09 am | Sunset 6.02 pm | Moonrise 1.34 am | Moonset 2.41 pm

DOMINO EFFECT

SCHOOL EDUCATION TAKES A HIT, NO SOLUTION IN SIGHT

PREEJA PRASAD @Bengaluru

PRIMARY and secondary schools, indirectly hit by the lockdown and economic slowdown, present multiple problems that are now being considered, ahead of reopening schools. Karnataka has 78,436 schools with 4,69,250 teachers, and as per the education department's data, out of 1.05 crore students, 80 lakh students have enrolled in schools.

The economic impact of the pandemic and lockdown on the education sector is unprecedented. Job cuts, failing businesses due to slump in demand, salary cuts among the employed and staggered salaries have led to a crunch in family incomes, lack of support for children's education, to schools struggling to sustain themselves, socio-economic fallout and psychological impact on children.

Abdul Razzak, a wedding tailor in Kumara Park West, has four children. His oldest daughter completed her graduation, while his second daughter is looking for admission to college. "She wants to pursue a course in a college near Anand Rao Circle, but the fee is ₹30,000. I have another daughter in sixth grade and a son in fifth grade who have to go back to school. Since weddings were cancelled during the pandemic, business was shut for two months, and supporting their education is difficult," he told TNIE.

Businessmen, bankers, media professionals and even teachers this paper spoke to, revealed that various sectors taking a hit impacted their incomes directly or indirectly, making it difficult to support children's education. Especially so with online classes replacing physical ones, and the issue of whether normal fees needs to be continued as long as schools do not reopen for physical attendance, and the fee structure itself.

There have been several reports of friction between parents and school managements over the fee structure under the "new normal".

While schools have been accusing some parents of taking advantage of the Covid situation, there are several parents with financial constraints, especially those from economically weaker sections, who have been

COVIDONOMICS PART-16

struggling to pay school fees.

This, in turn, has impacted schools and their sustenance. According to D Shashi Kumar, principal of Blossoms School and general secretary of Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka (KAMS), over 18,000 schools are facing financial constraints and finding it difficult to pay salaries to teachers, and over 10,000 nursery schools are in limbo due to lack of admissions, as parents are wary of sending little children to school, and do not mind waiting till the pandemic abates.

"Every unaided school in the state is struggling," says MA Khan, principal of KK English School, Varthur, who had to take a loan of Rs 10 lakh two months ago, and is hoping for approval for a loan of Rs 20 lakh to sustain his school's functioning. This is apparently the situation of several private unaided schools in the state.

A study by Dream A Dream Foundation on 853 schools across the state found that 97 per cent of them require support in digital learning solutions and training sessions for teachers to hold online classes. Besides, 89 per cent of the schools were found to be in need of financial support.

"We have asked parents to pay whatever they can. Even if it's ₹5,000, because we have to pay teachers as well. Some donors have come forward to voluntarily adopt some schoolchildren and pay their fees. We are looking for more donors. Currently, only 28 per cent of parents have paid fees. In our vicinity, 15 preschools have already shut down since they were running in rented buildings," Khan explained.

Teachers and counsellors also point to the psychological impact of online classes, especially on children in lower primary classes, wherein their cognitive skills may get affected due to lack of physical exercise and over-dependence on online sessions.

"We have cancelled nursery classes for this year because it is not possible to hold online classes for small children. Their admission fees have been refunded as well," said Gayathri Devi, principal of Little Flower Public School.

Cycle lane to get a green buffer zone too

PREEJA PRASAD @Bengaluru

BY November 1, cycling enthusiasts can take a ride around Raj Bhavan till the Planetarium. However, this lane will be different from the cycle lanes coming up at ORR, which has plastic bollards separating the lane from the thoroughfare.

The 45-km project, which costs ₹230 crore, will have a buffer zone with greenery for beautification, according to Smart City Limited Managing Director Hephsiba Rani Korlapati.

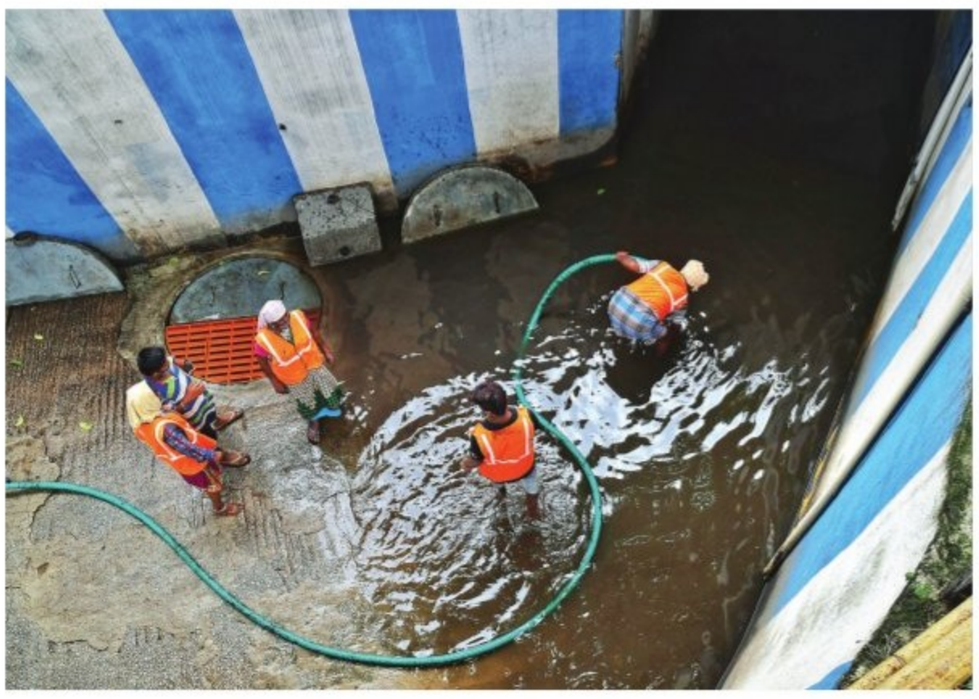
"The surface and environment is different in both areas. The road from Raj Bhavan is a high-density area with multi-modal transport. Hence, looking into all these aspects, the width and surface of the lane will be different. We are focusing on a cycling district as part of Area Based Development (ABD), and are working closely with the horticulture department, DULT and the PWD," Hephsiba told *The New Indian Express*.

The cycle lane will have a buffer zone with greenery for beautification

In addition to this, some spaces around the planetarium will also have benches. "The project has a space for pedestrians, then the cycle lane, a green buffer zone, and the road for vehicles. As of now, the cycle lane will soon open on the left side. The lane will include glowing tracks using reflectors and paint for clear distinction.

The lane will extend till Cubbon Park. However, that stretch is expected to be completed by March next year. While the Traffic department passed the order allowing only walkers inside the park from 6 am to 8 am, sources say it could allow cyclists to enter, once the cycle lane is in place.

The city is expecting its first Cycling District by DULT, which will cover around 25 wards in and around the Outer Ring Road (ORR) stretch between Silk Board Junction and Lowry Memorial College Junction near K R Puram, Old Airport Road, parts of Indiranagar and Koramangala. The lanes will be colour-coded and a draft will be submitted to the Smart City as well as the BBMP for implementation.



AFTER THE DOWNPOUR

Workers pump out water from an underpass on Sankey Road after the city received heavy showers on Sunday | SHRIRAMBN

Student moves court over class ban, HC refuses to intervene

ENS @Bengaluru

AN undergraduate law student at National Law School of India University moved the High Court after the institute did not accept his delayed project submission and also did not allow him to attend classes after that.

Divyanshu Badole filed a writ petition with the high court, but the latter has refused to be involved in the matter, saying that the right to remedy can only be sought in case of legal regime, that is subject to regulations only.

The UGC, while allowing to avail an extension of up to six days for the students on medical grounds and the issue of internet during the pandemic, as cited by the student, did not entitle the petitioner to seek shelter under the provisions.

The student, who claimed that he was a Covid infected/suspect, had not submitted supporting documents, nor had he produced "even a piece of paper of a bus ticket size, to prima facie convince the respondents", the court said.

"If relief is granted in the given circumstances, the same is likely to lay down a bad precedent that has abundant abuse potential at the hands of unscrupulous or non punctual students," the court said.

Transport department likely to achieve 90% of 2020-21 revenue target

PREEJA PRASAD @Bengaluru

THE Transport Department is likely to achieve nearly 90% its set annual revenue target of ₹6,617 crore for the year 2020-21 as vehicle registrations have gone up due to people switching to private vehicles from public modes on account of Covid-19.

Due to the pandemic, the transport department had revised its forecast of the annual revenue it could earn factoring in the impact of the pandemic. It predicted it would earn ₹4,900. However, in the past couple of months, vehicle registrations have risen, and the department has surpassed its monthly revenue predictions of ₹408 crore, making it likely that the department will achieve about 90% of the set revenue target of ₹6,617 crore. September saw 1,06,039 vehicles registered, earning the department ₹478 crore and between October 1-7, 5,951 vehicles were registered.

The state government has reportedly been exerting pressure on the transport department as it is a source of high revenue to the state treasury along with the departments of commercial tax, excise, stamps and registration.

While there was a dip in tax collection during the lockdown, transport department officials predicted a rise in sales assuming people would switch to using their own vehicles once economic activities resumed.

"People are now scared to take public transport. So, there is an assumption that people will slowly switch to private vehicles. We can only hope sales will improve in the next few months. We achieved 86% of the target last month," Transport Commissioner N Shivakumar had told TNIE.

Additional Commissioner and Secretary of Transport Hemanth Kumar said registrations have picked up since June, when lockdown restrictions began to be eased. "In June, we saw 92,000 registrations, against a target of 1.3 lakh. In July, despite the lockdown, 72,000 vehicles were registered," he said, adding that the department is expected to earn over ₹5,000 crore by the end of the fiscal year.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

12th October: Have you ever visited an astrologer? I'm sure you have. If so, you'll know that, although a lot of people think astrologers spend their time predicting the future, what they really do is manage the present. Although many astrologers do make forecasts, they always understand that it is important to know what is going to happen only so that we can either change it or turn it our advantage!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)

There's a certain pleasing symmetry in the fact that the Moon plays such a powerful role in your chart. You may visualise this as a perfect time to make a fresh start, particularly in an intense emotional relationship, but there's no reason why you should restrict yourself to personal matters.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)

Probably the best thing you can do today is spend a little time in quiet reflection, mulling over the problem of how to make it up to a special person, or perhaps how to reconcile friends who have fallen out. You're interested in the truth - much to your credit.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

There are few indications as to why partners may be irritated. One possibility is that long-term financial commitments are setting them on edge. Another is that they are annoyed by your attitude to money, or perhaps by their belief that you take them for granted.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Personally, and emotionally you seem to be pulled in different directions at the moment. This may not be unusual, so hopefully you should by now know how to deal with such little downs amidst the occasional ups. It's all a matter of striking a sensible balance.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)

The tide of fortune has not yet completely turned and, when it does, you will have to make some very fast decisions. If your work life appears to be bogged down in bureaucracy, be patient and take whatever time is necessary to work through it. And, if you wish, you may let partners set the pace at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

You can think of the next few weeks as a time to take on even greater challenges, both personally and professionally. The immediate requirement, though, is to consult family members and take decisions about your home. Try to do your best for others as well as yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

Venus, planet of love, holds you under its sway, enhancing a general feeling of well-being. However, lurking beneath the surface is a deep unconscious demand for personal freedom which will put a strain on at least one close relationship. Hopefully you'll deal with it with your usual grace.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Don't be tempted to use finances as a lever because you never know when current actions could rebound on you. It could be next month before long-term plans bear fruit, so do yourself a favour and think ahead. Don't wait for fate to step in and determine the outcome.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)

There's a sense of anticipation in the air. It seems likely that events which have been taking place almost unnoticed, perhaps behind the scenes, are shortly to come into the open. Whatever you do, don't force the pace, and don't make a partner feel as if they're trapped in a corner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)

On no account should you do or say anything which might upset or alienate partners or business associates. The fact is that one particular planet - Mercury - indicates that you don't yet know your own mind. Another - Venus - suggests that you can persuade other people to back you in any case.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

You really do have an awful lot going for you, although for some reason today seems like a good time to have a moan. Perhaps you're already experiencing the first emotional ripples from the next serious Saturnine alignment, or maybe you're just fed up with someone who has let you down!

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)

When planets move through enthusiastic parts of your chart, they oblige you to be a little less passive than is your wont. So it is that today's lively Moon makes it clear that you should not, indeed must not, sit on the sidelines. But making up your mind could be harder than you think.

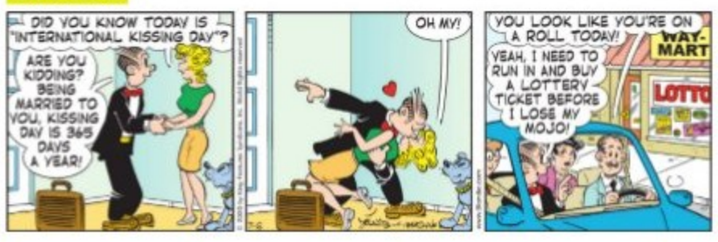
THE PHANTOM

YOU'RE A BRUTE TO FRIGHTEN ME LIKE THAT! TELL ME WHERE MY DAUGHTER IS!
AND MAY WE NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN!
OH!!... F-FORGIVE ME....
YOU GAVE ME BACK MY LIFE! WHEN I WAS CERTAIN IT WAS OVER!
I HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR YOU. WRITE THIS DOWN...

HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE


DID YOU KNOW TODAY IS "INTERNATIONAL KISSING DAY"?
ARE YOU KIDDING? BEING MARRIED TO YOU, KISSING DAY IS 365 DAYS A YEAR!
OH MY!
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ON A ROLL TODAY!
YEAH, I NEED TO RUN IN AND BUY A LOTTERY TICKET BEFORE I LOSE MY MOJO!
WAY-MART
LOTTO

LOCKHORNS

DENNIS THE MENACE

Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

SUDOKU

1				7	6			
	8		3					
	6					3		
6	4			9		2		
	2		6		7		5	
		9		2			7	6
		2					3	
					9		8	
			1	3				5

EVIL

- Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.
- Each sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

9	6	3	7	4	1	8	2	5
2	4	8	5	3	9	7	1	6
1	7	5	8	2	6	3	9	4
6	5	9	2	8	3	4	7	1
4	3	7	6	1	5	9	8	2
8	2	1	4	9	7	5	6	3
7	8	2	3	6	4	1	5	9
5	1	4	9	7	2	6	3	8
3	9	6	1	5	8	2	4	7

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

IGNAA

SOGSR

NRCETH

YLASAW

Don't hurt yourself! Do you want me to get more oranges?
It's a workout! But it will all be worth it.
MAKING ALL THEIR OWN LOW-PULP ORANGE JUICE ---

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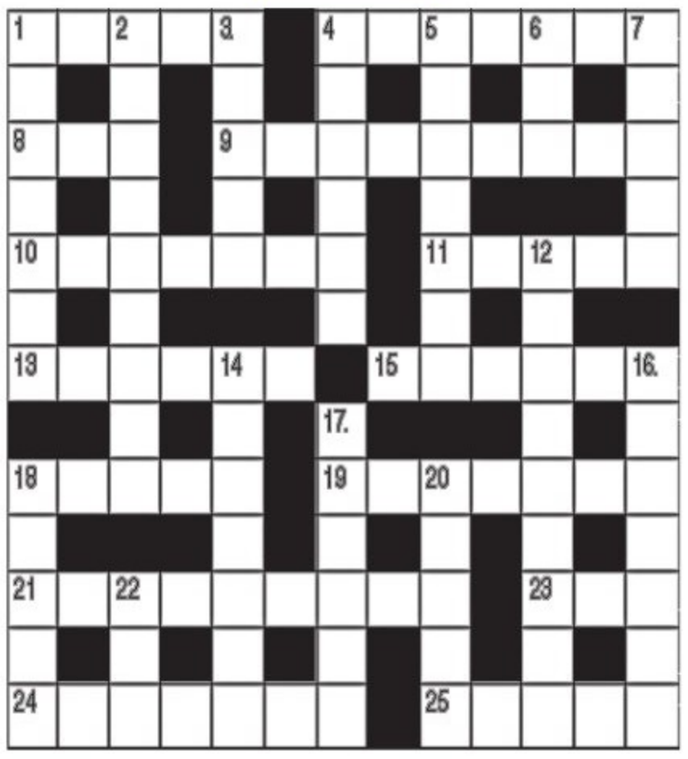
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here: ( ) ( ) ( )

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: SUNNY IGLOO HUDDLE INJECT
Answer: When the student said, "Can I ask a question?" the teacher said — YOU JUST DID

CROSS WORD



ACROSS

1 Possibly grasp a support (5)
4 See 19 Across
8 I am after the French garland of flowers (3)
9 Temple too elaborate for tribal symbol (5,4)
10 Indispensable element in German city church (7)
11 One who draws a London landmark (5)
13 Characteristics begin holding one back (6)
15 Number after a new atom bomb explosive (6)
18 A Belgian city is the subject (5)
19 and 4 Across: Yet we don't wipe down with them (7,7)
21 Barely countenanced (9)
23 A Scot's surprised expression (3)
24 A hundred cheers perhaps or one cry of terror (7)
25 The main comings and goings (5)

DOWN

1 A dissipater able to meet obligations (7)
2 Restore control to the country (9)
3 Board and fare (3,2)
4 Ill-suited for work (6)
5 Tommy's quiet; possibly a sign of illness (7)
6 I personally leave after an early start (3)
7 Cut and share out (5)
12 Guard what one says - it's a good maxim (9)
14 Vaguely related to the footplate (7)
16 Charles is out in the forest (7)
17 Change the fares before the end of March again (6)
18 Ear-piercing features of organs (5)
20 One advantage of changing seats (5)
22 Some music of vital importance (3)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Art gallery, 8 Oscar, 9 Staunch, 10 Treason, 11 Poser, 12 Foyers, 14 Settle, 17 Libra, 19 Inherit, 21 Cushion, 22 Again, 23 Limitation.

Down: 2 Rockery, 3 Germs, 4 Losing, 5 Example, 6 Yanks, 7 Charleston, 8 Out of place, 13 Realism, 15 Tornado, 16 Linnet, 18 Basil, 20 Heart.

Two beaches in Karnataka — the Padubidri beach in Udupi district and Kasarkod beach in Uttara Kannada district — have secured the international Blue Flag recognition, awarded by the Foundation for Environmental Education, an NGO in Denmark. Union Minister for Environment, Prakash Javadekar, made the announcement on Sunday

Patient readmitted, charged pvt quota fee

RANJANI MADHAVAN @ Bengaluru

THIRTY-three-year-old Mahesh Kumar tested Covid-positive and was admitted to Aster CMI Hospital in Hebbal on September 29, on reference from BBMP, which meant that the government would cover the cost of his treatment. The hospital would then be reimbursed by Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust, as per procedure.

Five days later, he was set to be discharged, but suffered increased coughing, fever and vomiting of blood. His temperature was 100 degrees Fahrenheit and the staff asked him to wait it out for half an hour. In the meanwhile, his discharge summary was prepared. Owing to his condition, Kumar asked the hospital to extend his admission there. He was sweating at night as well.

A CT scan revealed that he had a lung infection. He was given injections, drips and tablets due to which his condition improved. He was later informed by the hospital that he will have to pay for his extended stay on discharge, as he was no longer covered under the BBMP quota.

"The hospital said that they had already discharged me the first time and informed the BBMP about it. I had to be "readmitted" as a new patient to extend my stay there. They said this would mean that I was a privately admitted patient and not referred from the government for free treatment. Owing to this, the staff informed me that I would have to pay Rs 11,000 per day from October 4 until my discharge on October 13. This will cost me up to Rs 1 lakh and I cannot afford it," said Mahesh, who works in the accounts department of a private company in Bengaluru.

When he called up BBMP, they said nothing could be done about the situation. The hospital too responded similarly. He will now be charged on a technicality and does not know how he can mobilise funds by Tuesday.

TNIE contacted Aster CMI Hospital on why the patient was discharged when he was still sick and why a CT scan was done only much later, when he was "readmitted" by them as a private patient.

A statement from the hospital spokesperson said, "The patient was admitted to Aster CMI Hospital for treatment of Covid-19 on September 29 at 3:24 pm under government allotted beds. He was tested on September 26 and test results were provided to him on September 28. Post providing treatment, the patient was clinically stable on October 4 (after 8 days of him testing positive for Covid) and hence, was advised to be discharged with instructions for home quarantine for additional 14 days."

"He was put on discharge by the treating doctor in the morning and the same was uploaded on the government discharge portal. However, in the evening when the patient was about to be discharged, he had a spike in fever and was readmitted to the ward for further continuation of treatment. We tried to reverse his discharge in the government portal but this wasn't available as the portal works on real-time bed allotment," the statement said. "As soon as there's any vacant bed, it is allotted to another patient. We informed the patient about this issue and only after his approval, we continued the treatment under other category of bed," the statement added.

COST OF GOVT HOSPITAL BED CLIMBS TO ₹25,000

Officer promises action, says such deals will not be tolerated

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

AKSHAY Somappa (name changed) from Electronics City in Bengaluru recently received a message, "You had recently completed a Covid test and must have already received a call from our assistance team. You will now receive a call from our doctors to assess your symptoms and give you correct advice on the next steps to be followed, please keep your phone charged and next to you. We wish you health and happiness. Thank you, Karnataka State Coronavirus helpline. Your case ID is ****, Your ICMR Number is BU-******. Please call 7406884445 if need to speak to a doctor urgently..."

This was followed by a call from Apthamitra, with the caller telling the patient's wife that if the family wanted to opt for a government hospital, it was free of cost, but they would have to pay for a private hospital. This goes in contravention to rules which said that whether a patient opts for a government or private hospital within the government quota, it is free. Asked about this anomaly, Health Minister B Sreeramulu said officials would look into it.

Another patient from KGF, who decided to shift to Bengaluru for better treatment, was asked to cough up ₹25,000 for a bed in a private hospital. The patient's family said they could not afford it, and finally the sum was decided at ₹10,000, and the bed was allocated only after the sum was deposited.

Another person complained that a Covid-positive symptomatic patient who was admitted at a government-run facility, was not given the stipulated injection doses, but given only two, and the family had to buy the injection from the open market at a cost of over ₹4,000. It is said that the injection that was meant for patients, was being sold to private hospitals.

Asked about these complaints, Rajendra Cholan, IAS, Special Commissioner, Health, said, "Let them come to me, we will book a case under the relevant sections of law, to send a strong message that such things will not be tolerated. The commissioner had a meeting with private hospitals. There is a call centre to look into complaints of billing and bed allotment. There are senior officers too at the zonal level to look into this."

Asked about these three complaints, Sreeramulu said they would be investigated and action taken. "We will constitute a committee under the additional chief secretary and get a detailed report on these complaints."

Medics wearing Personal Protective Equipment suits wait outside the Covid-19 ward of Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru | VINOD KUMAR T

The commissioner had a meeting with private hospitals. There is a call centre to look into complaints of billing and bed allotment. There are senior officers too at the zonal level to look into this

Rajendra Cholan, IAS, Special Commissioner, Health

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Karnataka records its highest recovery, lowest mortality rate

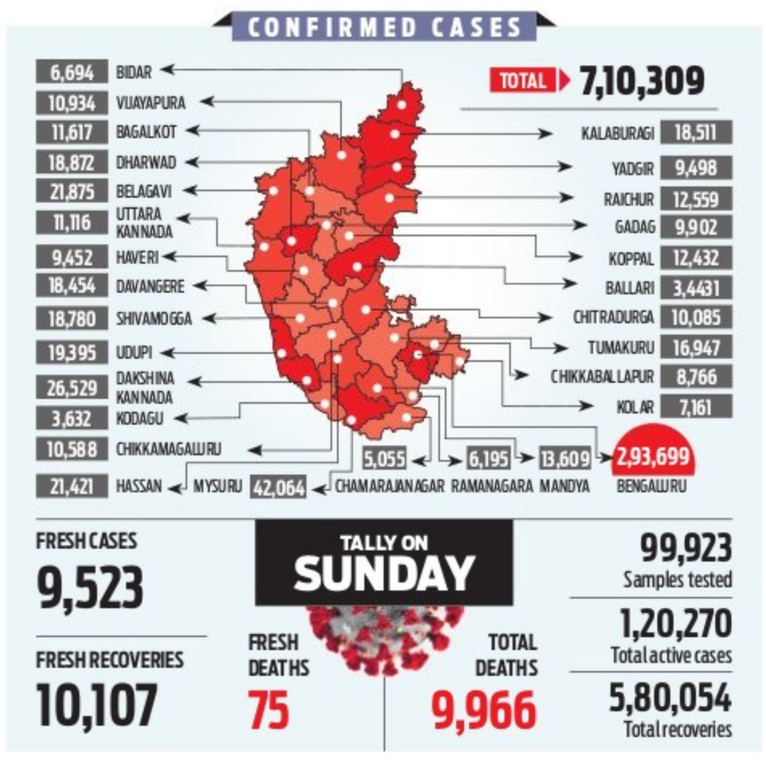
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA, on Sunday, recorded its lowest mortality rate and also its highest recovery rate so far since the pandemic broke out.

According to the data released by the state Covid war room, the state recorded a mortality rate of 1.40 per cent, which fell from 2.08 per cent on July 20, while recording a recovery rate of 81.66 per cent, way higher than its lowest of 35.29 per cent recorded on the same day in July. The recovery rate increased due to a high number of discharges on Sunday (10,107), bringing the the total number of discharges to 5,80,054. The state, at present, stands at the fourth position in terms of recovery rate after Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh.

However, the number of patients admitted to ICUs went up to 904 from 853 on Saturday — higher than 770, recorded a month ago.

The state recorded 9,523 new Covid-19 positive cases in a single day as reported on Sunday, taking the tally to 7,10,309, after crossing the seven-lakh mark on Saturday. While the single-day positivity rate of Karnataka is 9.53 per cent, the general positivity rate in the state is 11.93 per cent, lower than the 12.54 per cent recorded on September 27, which was the highest positivity rate recorded in the state. Ever since that day, the positivity rate has been consistently on the decline, indicating that there are decreasing numbers of people testing positive per 100 people tested.



Bagalkot dist tops recovery chart

Even as the rise in Covid-19 cases in the state is far from abating anytime soon, Bagalkot may have reason to cheer. The district recorded a recovery rate of 93.6 per cent as on Sunday, which is the highest reported by any district since the outbreak of the virus in Karnataka. Interestingly, five districts in North Karnataka – Bagalkot, Ballari, Bidar, Raichur and Gadag — have witnessed a recovery rate upwards of 90 per cent.

Health staffers at a fever clinic take down details of people for testing in Bengaluru | MEGHANA SASTRY

Suresh in hospital; MLA, Cong leader test positive

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru/Udupi/ Shivamogga

PRIMARY and Secondary Education Minister Suresh Kumar, who had tested positive for Covid last Monday, was admitted to a hospital on Sunday. The minister, who was asymptomatic and was in home isolation since the last one week, took to Twitter on Sunday to announce that he has been advised hospitalisation now.

"I have been in home quarantine since last Monday after testing positive for Covid. As per doctor's advice, I have been admitted to a friend's hospital where I will be under medical supervision. There is no need to worry. My health is recovering in all aspects," he tweeted.

The minister was advised hospitalisation after he started showing symptoms. Udupi MLA Raghupathi Bhat too tested positive for coronavirus and took to his social media pages to announce that would be hospitalised for treatment.

Meanwhile, Udupi MLA K Raghupathi Bhat tested positive for Covid-19 on Sunday. As per doctors' advice, Bhat was admitted to a hospital. In a tweet, Bhat requested those who had accompanied him in recent days to get tested for Covid-19. A 74-year-old female from Udupi taluk who was suffering from Covid became the 165th victim of the infection in Udupi on Sunday.

In Shivamogga, former minister and Congress leader Kagodu Thimmappa tested positive on Saturday and was shifted to a private hospital in Bengaluru for treatment. Sources said the 88 year old was down with fever for the last three days and had got a Covid test done.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, G. Prakash, S/o. Gopalaiah, aged about 41 years, R/at No. 846, 3rd Block, BDA Layout, Near Real House Apartment, Anjanapura, Bengaluru-560108, has declared that my son's name KUSHAL P. BHARDWAJ @ JNANESH P. is the name of one and the same person only, vide affidavit dated 01-10-2020 sworn before notary, P.N. Nagesha, Bengaluru.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I, **PURUSHOTHAMA**, S/o Raju H B, residing at GBJ-373, 13th Cross, HAL East Township, Marathalli, Bangalore-560037, declare that correct name of My Father is **RAJU H B**, but in my SSLC Marks Card, Bank Account, Service records, Aadhaar Number, Passport etc, Name of My Father is wrongly written as **RAJANNA** sworn before the Notary D.B.Ramesh Bashkar, Bangalore on 07/10/2020.

GENERAL PUBLIC NOTICE

(LOST OF PROPERTY SALE DEED)

The Public are hereby informed through this General Public Notice that, my client by name **Mr. NALLAMUTHU PAULSAMY,** S/o. Mr. Paulsamy, aged about 53 years, residing at House No.31, Nagaraja Reddy Layout, Murugeshpalya, Old Airport Road, Bangalore-560017, Karnataka. He had lost the bag containing below mentioned original document on **25.11.2019** at around 5.00 p m, while he was travelling by Auto from his residence to Murugeshpalya Bus Stop, Bangalore-560017 to met his friend, he had **lost original sale deed** in respect of schedule property described hereunder.

a. The Original Registered **SALE DEED,** dated **23.11.1984,** executed by Ms. **N.** Vijayalakshmi @ Vijaya, D/o. Mr. G. Nagaraj Reddy in favour of Mrs. Vasundra Jayaraman, W/o. Mr. Vaithinathan Jayaraman, vide registered document **No. 5297/1984-85,** Book-1, Volume No.2237, pages 108 to 110, registered in the office of Sub Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, in respect of the schedule property.

And later my client had purchased schedule property from said Mrs. Vasundra Jayaraman, W/o. Mr. Vaithinathan Jayaraman on 27.06.2001. vide Sale Deed Reg document No.3090/2001-02, Book No.1, Volume No.4939, pages 105 to 118, dt. 28.06.2001, registered in the office the Sub-registrar, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, in respect of the schedule property.

Whereas, he had made complete efforts to trace the aforesaid original Sale Deed and was unable to find the same, finally my client had sworn an affidavit dated 10.10.2020 before the Advocate & Notary Mr. K V Jagannath Reddy, Bangalore and a Police Complaint has been filed by my client on 10.10.2020 for having lost the document, vide Crime Branch Bangalore City Police **Lost Report No. 127963/2020.**

Whereas, my client further state that, if anyone has any claim or dispute over the schedule property, please inform me within 07 days from the date of this publication and if anyone finds the said original sale deed document, I requested General Public to contact me and handover the same address mentioned below and finder will be get suitably rewarded.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing **Site No. 18,** present **BBMP Khata Municipal No.31, PID No.73-18-31,** (old HASB Khata No.635, then New No.1453/635-A), situated at Nagaraj Reddy Layout, Murugeshpalya, (Kodihali Dakhle), Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore and presently comes under jurisdiction of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), measuring **East** to **West 37 feet** and **North** to **South 39 feet,** totally measuring **1443 sq feet** and consisting of Ground Floor + First Floor House with RCC roofed residential building, builtup area in Ground floor 505 sq feet and in first Floor 505 sq feet, in totally measuring 1010 Sq feet built-up area, together with mosaic flooring, which is hereinafter referred and described as schedule property and bounded on :-

East by: Site No. 17, West by: 24 feet wide Road, North by: 24 feet wide Road, South by: Private Property.

K V JAGANNATH REDDY, *B.A. LLB*
Advocate & Notary Public, Govt of India
Office at No. 791, 1st Floor, next to Aishwarya Apartment, Outer Ring (Service) Road, Marathhalli, Bangalore-560037.
Contact Mobile Nos: 8667013266 / 9449679054
Date:-12.10.2020. Place:- Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Smt. Puttamma W/o Late Rangappa, residing at No. 3223, Daivajna Guru Bhavana Road, Vishwabharathi House Bldg., Co-op., Society, IV Block, BSK III Stage, Bangalore-560 085, has lost the original sale deeds and other documents of her joint family properties mentioned below (amongst other properties), while shifting her house on 28-09-2020 from Hanumanthanagar to BSK III stage, Bangalore. She has lodged a police complaint in this regard. If anybody finds the same, please handover it to the addressee mentioned below or to the concerned police station, for which act of kindness, my client will remain thankful. My client has not entered into any kind of transaction respecting the properties. Public are hereby cautioned from entering into any kind of transaction respecting the very properties with anybody claiming custody of the original documents and they will be doing so at their own risk and costs and it will not bound my client in any manner.

1. Sy. Nos. 34/6, 34/7, 34/9 and 34/10 totally measuring 1-00 acre, Sy. No. 34/15 measuring 19 guntas. vide sale deed regd., as no. RMN-1-06470/2009-10, C.D.No. RMND106, dt: 06-01-2010 at Sub-registrar, Ramanagarara.

2. Sy. No. 34/8 measuring 09 guntas vide sale deed regd., as no. RMN-1-01970/2008-09, C.D.No. RMND80 dt: 11-08-2008, at Sub-registrar, Ramanagarara.

3. Sy. Nos. 34/13, measuring 014 guntas and Sy. No.34/14, measuring 15 guntas regd., vide sale deed no.RMN-1-05138-2010-11, C.D. No. RMND131 dt: 28-12-2010 at the office of the sub-registrar, Ramanagara.

H.L. SRIDHARAMURTHY, Advocate, 47/1, Mount joy road, Hanumanthanagar, Bangalore-560 019. Date: 08-10-2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

Smt. Girija, Wife of Sri V M Raghu, resident of No.3, 17th Main Road, AGS Layout, Arehalli, Bengaluru – 560 061 has executed a Joint Development Agreement (JDA) dated 03 September 2019 registered as Document No. SRJ-1-02951/2019-20 of Book –I and stored in CD No. SRJD443 along with a General Power of Attorney (GPA) dated 03 September 2019 registered as Document No. SRJ-4-00153-2019-20 of Book IV, stored in CD No. SRJD443, in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Sarjapur, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, in favour of my client M/s OSR Ventures LLP, having its registered office at No. 40 and 41, 3rd Floor, Ventureast Plaza, Road No.2, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana - 500 032 in respect of the lands described in the Schedule hereunder. The aforementioned JDA is subsisting even to this day.

It is hereby brought to the notice of the general public that the public notice published in the daily newspaper dated 06 September 2020 by Sri H S Dwarakanath, advocate, on behalf of Smt. Girija, W/o Sri V M Raghu is misleading and incorrect.

The aforementioned General Power of Attorney is coupled with interest and as such the said GPA cannot be revoked/terminated. Therefore the aforementioned General Power of Attorney executed in favour of my Client M/s OSR Ventures LLP in respect of the Schedule Property subsists even to this day. Any person dealing with the Schedule Property based on the aforementioned representation(s) of Smt. Girija will be doing so at his/her own risk and consequence.

SCHEDULE

Converted lands measuring i) 01 Acre 01 gunta in Survey No.42/1 ii) 39 guntas in Survey No. 42/2 of Channasandra Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South bearing BBMP Khatha No. 602/Sy. No. 42/1 & 42/2 of Channasandra Division, Muncipal Ward No. 160 of Raja Rajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru and bounded by

EAST : Survey No.42/3 and 42/4
WEST : Survey No. 22
NORTH : Survey No. 23
SOUTH : Road and Survey No. 22

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SILENT PROTEST

Demanding the immediate release of Father Stan Swamy S J, who was arrested by the National Investigation Agency in connection with the Bhima-Koregaon incident, the Bangalore Jesuit Educational Institutions will organise a silent protest between 4 and 5 pm on Monday

STRAWS IN THE WIND

Up the ladder, Hindi tuition a must

Newly appointed national general secretary of the BJP CT Ravi is pumped up about moving up the ranks from a common worker who tied BJP flags in his hometown to a key post in the organisational hierarchy. Now that he is in the midst of central leadership of the BJP, Ravi is said to be keen on brushing up his language skills. Ravi, a prolific orator in Kannada, is falling short of impressing leaders from other states because of his difficulty in conversing in Hindi. The minister is now keen on taking Hindi coaching to improve his communication in the language to fit in among his party's central leadership.

From coalition dharma to drama

Politics is a peculiar profession, and makes room for strange bedfellows. Just 13 months ago, the coalition partners were running the government, but today, they are at daggers drawn. It's no surprise: HD Kumaraswamy as CM and Siddaramaiah as Super CM was not the best of arrangements, and some political pundits put it down to a lack of "emotional maturity" to keep the coalition going. Today, the relationship has soured further, with Kumaraswamy resorting to calling Siddaramaiah slanderous names. He claimed that Siddaramaiah was not speaking the truth that the Congress had discussed the no-confidence motion with the JDS before moving it. Political analysts cautioned that this calling of names just before elections could be more than what it appears to be.

Mask, fines and a rampant virus

The coronavirus infection may be rapidly sweeping the state, but there are those, like The Don, who don't believe in masking up. A helpless state government deployed mask marshals and imposed a heavy-duty fine -- Rs 1,000 for exposing your nostrils and pearlies. This led to some quick covering up, but CM B S Yediyurappa, probably feeling sorry for the masses, brought the fine down to Rs 250. Whether it came as a lesson to the errant is still not clear, but one angry caller had this to say, "Let them collect a fine of Rs 1,000 or hike it to Rs 5,000, but first should they not provide the offender with a Rs 10 mask, so the person doesn't infect others? If they collect hefty fines and leave offenders free, how does it help control the infection?" Well, that deserves some thought.

BJP announces names for Bihar polls, skips K'taka

Party may wait till last minute to announce names, like in 2018

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

The Bharatiya Janata Party on Sunday announced names of its candidates for the second phase Assembly elections in Bihar and bypolls in five states. There was, however, no announcement of candidates for the two seats in Karnataka — Sira and Rajarajeshwari Nagar.

The party released the names after its Central Election Committee met under the leadership of its national president Jagat Prakash Nadda on Saturday to zero in on candidates for the upcoming polls. While names of 46 candidates for second phase polls in Bihar and candidates for 16 seats going to bypolls in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Manipur and Odisha were announced, Karnataka found no mention.

The Karnataka State Core Committee shortlisted the names for the two seats up for the bypolls more than ten days ago. Given the tough time the party is facing in convincing cadres to work with Congress import-turned-party's probable candidate N Muniratna, the Central leadership is said to be considering waiting till the last minute to announce the names.

State BJP leaders worry that given the ground support for Tulasi Muniraju Gowda -- the BJP candidate in 2018, the Central leadership might take the route it did while announcing the Bengaluru South MP candidate in 2019 — waiting till the eve of the last day to file the nominations.

The last date to file nominations for the upcoming polls to Sira and RR Nagar is October 16. The delay on BJP's side comes even as Congress has already announced its candidates and distributed B forms. Meanwhile, supporters of N Muniratna and Tulasi Muniraju Gowda have started door-to-door campaigning for their respective leaders. The JDS, too, delaying its candidate announcement for RR Nagar has given rise to speculation that Muniraju Gowda may contest from JDS if denied a ticket from the BJP.

Congress to continue with digital outreach strategy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

Congress candidates TB Jayachandra and H Kusuma | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

KEEN on winning both seats that will go for the bypolls on November 3, the Karnataka Congress has decided to appoint one legislator and organisational senior to each ward and panchayat as incharges.

In a meeting of senior Congress leaders, including KPCC president D K Shivakumar, Congress Legislative Party chief Siddaramaiah and former deputy chief minister G Parameshwara, to plan poll strategies on Sunday, it was decided that social media and digital addresses will be utilised optimally during campaigning amid the Covid pandemic. "Legislators and senior leaders will be made in charge of each ward and every panchayat in Rajarajeshwari Nagar. Grassroots- and block-level workers will be given specific responsibility in every booth," said Shivakumar.

Shivakumar also gave away B forms to T B Jayachandra and H Kusuma, the party candidates for Sira and Rajarajeshwari Nagar assembly constituencies, respectively.

Taking off from Shivakumar's oath-taking ceremony as state Congress chief that saw huge digital reach, the party intends to use a similar strategy in its campaign. With restrictions in place for public meetings and gatherings, the party is keen on engaging voters via online platforms, large-screen setups at panchayat and ward levels, mass messaging services apart from social media campaign.

Vokkaliga seers meeting DKS may impact bypoll outcome

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Tumakuru

THE bypolls to Rajarajeshwari Nagar and Sira seats, the first such election after D K Shivakumar took over as KPCC president, could serve as a litmus test of his leadership. The fact that Vokkaliga religious heads have met him despite the recent IT raids on his properties, is expected to play a significant role in the bypolls.

The young religious head of Spatikapuri Gurugunda Mutt Sri Nanjavadhuta of Pattanayakanahalli in Sira taluk, has always express solidarity with community leaders who have faced adverse circumstances. When the BJP removed D V Sadananda Gowda from the CM's post in July 2012, the swami had hit the streets. He recently visited Shivakumar to show moral support.

The religious head is also close to former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda's family and reportedly blessed former minister late B Sathyanarayana during the 2018 assembly polls. Though he is averse to T B Jayachandra of the Congress, the seer may now support him, given the Shivakumar factor.

Adichunchanagiri Mutt head Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swami had also called on Shivakumar, which could have a similar impact on the bypolls.

Congress leaders during a meeting at the KPCC office in Bengaluru | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

The Kunchitiga Vokkaliga Swami's influence is also considerable in the area, with Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa's son B Y Vijayendra too taking his blessings during his maiden visit to Sira recently.

There is a strong Vokkaliga flavour to the bypolls, with the Congress opting for candidates from the community for both seats. In RR Nagar, the party candidate is H Kusuma, wife of late IAS officer DK Ravi.

Both Sira and RR Nagar have a considerable number of Vokkaliga votes -- Kunichitiga Vokkaliga leader B Sathyanarayana had won Sira for JDS, while Muniratna Naidu won RR Nagar for the Congress.

"Vokkaligas will not go after JDS and former CM H D Kumaraswamy alone, and it's evident from the fact that H D Deve Gowda lost in Tumakuru and Nikhil Kumaraswamy in Mandya in the 2019 parliamentary polls," Opposition leader Siddaramaiah remarked on Sunday. JDS, BJP still waiting, watching

ALL SET FOR DASARA

In light of the ongoing pandemic, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa chairs a meeting to discuss the precautionary measures that should be put in place during the Mysuru Dasara, in Bengaluru on Sunday. It has already been decided that the festivities will be a low-key affair with strict enforcement to control crowding | EXPRESS

SUDHAKAR LIKELY TO BAG HEALTH PORTFOLIO TOO

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

THE standoff between Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa and Health Minister B Sriramulu could become more strained, with the former mulling a crucial decision — handing responsibility of the health ministry to Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar.

It is said that Yediyurappa has expressed concern over confusion and mismanagement in handling of the Covid crisis, and indicated that he would like one minister to handle both these portfolios. It is well-known that over the past few months, there has been a cold relationship between Sriramulu and Sudhakar over taking the upper hand in managing Covid.

Sources say the move could lead to colder ties between Yediyurappa and Sriramulu, who has been openly unhappy and sulking for the past 13 months, as he was not considered for the post of deputy chief minister, though it was promised to him when the BJP took charge in 2019.

K Sudhakar

B Sriramulu

Sriramulu could be compensated with the Social Welfare portfolio, which is currently held by DyCM Govid Karjol. Considering that he already holds the other important portfolio of Backward Classes Welfare, he will be more than compensated

Sriramulu, leader of the powerful Valmiki community, was used for campaigns by the BJP in over 80 constituencies where the community, or Sreeramulu himself, was seen as influential.

Sriramulu could be compensated with the Social Welfare portfolio, which is currently held by Deputy CM Govid Karjol. Considering that he already holds the other important portfolio of Backward Classes Welfare, he will be more than compensated, say analysts. Chikkaballapur MLA K Sudhakar was one of the 17 MLAs who crossed over to the BJP.

The two portfolios of health and medical education have been handled by one minister in successive governments, and Yediyurappa is looking to follow the old model. Sources said the change could be effected in the next few days.

EXPRESS READ

HDK THANKS CM FOR RESPONDING POSITIVELY

Bengaluru: Former chief minister and JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy has thanked Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa for "responding positively" to the concerns of the teaching community. "For the past week, I have been concerned about the many challenges facing the teacher community," he said. He also expressed gratitude to students and parents for their support. The former CM's expression of gratitude comes at a time when the state will see elections to two council constituencies where teachers are the main voters. ENS

Buzz on social media over Jarkiholi Jr for Belagavi LS seat

NAUSHAD BIJAPUR @ Belagavi

WITH bypolls being necessitated for the Belagavi Lok Sabha seat due the death of Minister of State for Railways, Suresh Angadi, the BJP, which lacks strong leaders in the region, is faced with the tough task of picking the probable candidates.

But on social media platforms, **Amarnath Jarkiholi**, son of Karnataka Water Resources Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi, has emerged as a favourite with several posts, projecting him as the potential BJP candidate for the Belagavi LS seat, going viral on on Sunday.

The Jarkiholi family has huge clout in the region and enjoys wide support in many assembly segments in Belagavi Lok Sabha constituency. Presently, three assembly seats are held by the Jarkiholi brothers in the district. This could the reason why supporters of Ramesh Jarkiholi want to have his son in the fray, sources indicated.

Though former MP Ramesh Katti, the State Government's representative in New Delhi, Shankargouda Patil and some local leaders are in contention for the BJP ticket, the party may give a serious thought to having Amarnath as its candidate, considering the 'winnability factor', the sources said.

The Jarkiholis also wield considerable influence in many of the Marathi-majority areas in Belagavi LS constituency as well due to their cordial relations with several top leaders of Maharashtra in the border areas.

On the other hand, several close associates of Suresh Angadi are demanding a ticket for either his wife or daughter, but their chances are bleak as Angadi's family members have kept away from politics, party sources said.

Meanwhile, speaking to a section of the media on Sunday, Ramesh Jarkiholi denied exerting pressure on the BJP leadership for a ticket to his son and said he will rather want the BJP to give the ticket to a member of Angadi's family. He said his son is not much experienced and is still too young to contest elections.

POWER PLAY

Seeking ST tag, Kurubas stage massive show of strength

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

DEMANDING inclusion of Kurubas under the Scheduled Tribes category, members of the community congregated at the Palace Grounds here on Sunday in a massive show of strength to exert pressure on the state and central governments in this regard.

As part of this, the community members are also planning to take out a mega rally in February next year if they are not granted the ST tag.

Kurubas are classified as 'Gonds' in Kalaburagi, Yadgir and Bidar where they have the ST status. They are also classified as STs in Kogadu as Jenu Kuruba and Kadu Kuruba and community members have been urging the state government to grant that classification in other parts of the state as well.

Leaders of various political parties, including Minister KS Eshwarappa, during the Kuruba convention at Palace Grounds in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHRIRAM BN

An agitation for ST status turned violent in Bagalkot and nine persons were arrested in 2016-17. The community also staged a massive show of strength in 2016-17, too.

The Kurubas are classified as backwards. As per the statistics, they represent 8.65 per cent of the state population, including Gond Kurubas.

On Sunday, Jagadguru Niranjana Puri pontiff of Kanaka Gurupeetha, Minister K S Eshwarappa, JDLP deputy leader in Assembly Bandeppa Kashempur, MLC A H Vishwanath, MLCs MTB Nagaraj and R Shankar, former minister H M Revanna and elected members of local bodies urged for unity in the community.

Considering the lead taken by Eshwarappa, the BJP is trying to woo the Kurubas who have largely supported the Congress in Karnataka.

The only notable absentee during the Sunday meeting was Congress leader Siddaramaiah who had only sent his good wishes supporting them.

If Kurubas are included in the ST list, it will unseat Valmikis who are presently the most powerful community in the category. Kurubas are present in almost all parts of the state and the tag will alter several political equations.

A committee has been constituted with Eshwarappa and former ministers Bandeppa Kashempur, H M Revanna and AH Vishwanath to take this matter forward.

Revanna said, "Kurubas were given tribal status way back in 1936. In Karnataka, some of the shepherd communities in Kalaburagi and Kodagu are still given ST status. In many states of the country, they have been given ST status. Kurubas are among the oldest settlers in the country."

UPPARA COMMUNITY TOO SEEKS ST TAG

Davangere: Purushothamananda Puri Swamy of Bhageeratha Gurupeet has met Deputy Chief Minister K S Eshwarappa and requested him to take up the cause of the Uppara community for inclusion into the Scheduled Tribes category. The swamy, along with other community leaders, met Eshwarappa at his residence in Bengaluru on Saturday. He said the community should be granted the ST tag due to its "tribal nature of worship and marriage rituals" among others.

Man murdered over IPL betting

Bengaluru: A 26-year-old man was stabbed to death by a friend in Doddaballapura in the wee hours of Sunday. A fight over betting on IPL matches is suspected to be the reason for the murder. The deceased has been identified as Sanjay Kumar from Haryana.

Nagarahole butterflies to be counted

Forest dept's census exercise comes at a time when the Centre scouts for a national buttefly

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

FOR the first time, the state Forest Department officials in Nagarahole Tiger Reserve (NTR) will undertake a butterfly census and prepare a checklist. If all goes fine, the reserve could soon have its own flagship butterfly.

The exercise has come at a time when the Central government is looking for a national butterfly. Karnataka already has its own state butterfly — the Southern Birdwing (Troides Minos). It is the largest butterfly species, is endemic to South India, and resembles the colours of the state flag.

While the department decided to undertake the exercise of revision of the flora and avifauna checklist, it has also decided to create a butterfly checklist, starting from October 8, to June-July 2021, and two seasons will be covered under the census. The survey is being done at a time when Bandipur Tiger Reserve is also undertaking a large herbivore census. The first briefing for both the census were held on September 3 at the tiger reserve.

A butterfly checklist is being created for the first time, which is geared towards creating awareness about wildlife among staffers of the reserve

"The first checklist of flora and avifauna was prepared 10 years ago and it is being revised now. A butterfly checklist is being created for the first time. It is out of interest to make the staffers more knowledgeable and to create more awareness in wildlife. A lot of importance is given to large taxa, but there are other species which need attention. Butterflies are very important for pollination and hence it was decided to undertake this study," NTR Director, Mahesh Kumar, told *The New Indian Express*.

The department is taking the help of National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore Butterfly Group, and College of Forestry, Ponnampet.

"If all goes well, then, depending on the information received during the butterfly assessment, the tiger reserve could also have its own flagship butterfly," Mahesh added.

He explained that the work of preparing the butterfly checklist and revising the flora and avifauna checklist has been divided among the eight ranges. "Since the last 10 years, not much has changed in terms of flora and avifauna of the reserve, except for some shrub species. The assessment will only help in better planning, ascertaining threats, and understanding conservation issues to improve the tiger reserve," he added.

FESTIVE MARCH

Elephants rehearse for the upcoming Dasara Jamboo Savari on the palace grounds in Mysuru | UDAYSHANKAR S

After 2 yrs, Sulvadi temple set to reopen

K SHIVA KUMAR @Mysuru

NEARLY two years after the Sulvadi temple tragedy which claimed over 17 lives, the Kichuguttu Maramma Temple is all set to reopen on October 20.

The temple, under the Muzrai department, is making hectic preparations to welcome devotes from Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. However, the survivors of the infamous prasadam tragedy, most of whom daily wage labourers, are still struggling with the government failing to keep up its promise.

On December 14, 2018, hundreds of people were hospitalised after consuming poison laced prasadam at the temple. The tragedy claimed lives of 17 people including five women and two children.

> **I can't work in fields or take up hard jobs as I am yet to recover completely. How can I survive when there is no income or family member to take care of me. I lost my son, daughter-in-law and grandson in the tragedy. I should have died then instead of struggling now**
> A survivor

Around 100 fell sick and survived after treatment at various hospitals.

The police cracked the case and arrested all the four accused including junior pontiff of Salur Mutt Immadi Mahadeva Swamy who had allegedly hatched the plan to avenge his enmity with the senior pontiff.

The then JDS-Congress coalition government led by CM H D Kumaraswamy had announced compensation of ₹12.5 lakh to families of the deceased and ₹1.5 lakh to survivors besides announcing free follow-up health checkups for survivors in major hospitals.

Sadly, most of the survivors who received compensation of ₹1.5 lakh from the social welfare department had to spend all the money in treatment as many were denied free treatment facility at major hospitals.

The then government had also announced a site and two acres land for families of the deceased but many claim that they were given sites in a disputed land and are not in a position to carry out any works there.

Stir for release of Fr Swamy in city today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

DEMANDING immediate release of Father Stan Swamy SJ, who was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in connection with the Bhima-Koregaon incident, a silent protest will be held on Monday.

Expressing anguish over the arrest, the Bangalore Jesuit Educational Institutions (BJES) has organised the protest between 4 and 5 pm on Monday. A human chain will be formed from Brigade Road to Shantinagar Bus Depot.

"Fr Stan Swamy, who is 83-years-old and a Jesuit priest, has spent almost three decades of his life identifying himself with the Adivasi people and their struggle, especially focusing on their land rights. He stood and supported the life, dignity and the self-respect of the Adivasi community," a release stated.

K'TAKA'S PADUBIDRI, KASARKOD BEACHES BAG BLUE FLAG TAG

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Udupi/Karwar

TWO beaches in Karnataka — the Padubidri beach in Udupi district and Kasarkod beach in Uttara Kannada district — have secured the international Blue Flag recognition, awarded by the Foundation for Environmental Education, an NGO in Denmark. Union Minister for Environment, Prakash Javadekar, made the announcement on Sunday.

They were recommended for the coveted tag based on the amenities available, cleanliness, safety, drinking water facilities, pollution-free atmosphere and generation of renewable energy.

In July 2019, the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, had identified 12 beaches across the country for the Blue Flag certification and announced a list of activities that will be permissible in their respective coastal regulation zones for that purpose. Now, eight of them — Shivrajpur (Devbhumi Dwarka, Gujarat), Ghoghla (Daman and Diu), Kasarkod (Uttara Kannada, Karnataka), Padubidri (Udupi, Karnataka), Kappad (Kozhikode, Kerala), Rushikonda (Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh), Golden (Puri, Odisha) and Radhanagar (Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar) beaches have been accorded the Blue Flag label.

A view of Kasarkod beach in Uttara Kannada district | EXPRESS

Over the last two years, the Udupi district administration had been taking up work to secure the tag as a series of stringent environmental, safety and accessibility criteria had to be fulfilled. The certification will boost tourism, attracting tourists from foreign countries. Speaking to *TNIE*, Udupi Deputy Commissioner C G Jagadish said the district administration will seek additional funds of ₹5.98 crore from the State Government to further improve amenities at the beach.

The district tourism department has so far spent ₹8 crore, released by the Union Government, and ₹2.68 crore released from the State Government, to create amenities at the beach.

Chandrashekar, Assistant Director of the Tourism Department in Udupi told TNIE that several amenities will be provided for the benefit of tourists at Padubidri beach while environmental conservation will be given top priority.

CRIME PATROL

Man tries to extort money from prof, held

Bengaluru: The Whitefield Cyber Crime, Economic Offences and Narcotics (CEN) police recently arrested a man for allegedly trying to extort money from a professor using his morphed photograph. The accused, Vishwas, hails from Assam and owns a poultry business. Police said the professor had filed a complaint in this regard.

Techie accused of harassing wife

Bengaluru: Savita (name changed) has complained that her techie husband was physically assaulting her over the past seven months, and recently, pushed her out of the house along with their son. Accordingly, an FIR has been filed in this regard, but the accused managed to secure anticipatory bail.

College girl found murdered

Bengaluru: A 19-year-old girl was found murdered in Kudur near Magadi on Saturday. However, the motive behind the murder is yet to be ascertained, while the perpetrators are still at large. The deceased has been identified as Latha, a resident of Bettahalli village, who was studying B.Com first year at a government college in Magadi.

Thief caught red-handed with 40 kg of sandalwood

MEERA BHARDWAJ @Bengaluru

ILLEGAL chopping and theft of sandalwood trees continues unabated in the forests and farmlands of Karnataka.

Recently, one person was held after he was caught chopping sandalwood logs in a reserve forest of Sirsi. Erappa alias Nagappa Naik (52) was caught red-handed with 40 kg of wood by the Siddapura forest patrolling staff. RFO Shivanand S Ningani told *TNIE* the that offender had been booked under various sections of the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 and 1969.

The RFO said, "This is a non-bailable offence and he has been remanded to judicial custody for 15 days by Siddapura JMFC court. This offender from Sagar taluk had somehow entered Kanagodu reserve forest area and Survey No. 109 and chopped the trees and already cut them into logs and sticks. This reserve forest has a healthy growth of sandalwood trees in the Sirsi division."

It is not just forests but even private lands where farmers grow sandalwood are eyed by thieves and smugglers. Recently, Lokeshwara, a farmer, lost his crop when thieves chopped 150 sandalwood trees growing in his land at Suttukote village in Shivamogga taluk. With the state forest department providing saplings to grow this fragrant wood, this farmer had taken 6,000 saplings from the department and cultivated in 20 acres of his farmland. However, protection of the trees being the farmer's responsibility, he has lost his precious crop. Therefore, now many farmers feel the need for insurance cover for their sandalwood trees.

The wood of the sandalwood tree is perhaps the most prizedfor its fragrant heartwood sold at private auctions in the price range of Rs 16,000-18,000 to Rs 65,000 per kg. However, in government auctions, it is Rs 7,000-8,000 per kg.

Coal India Limited
(A Maharatna Company)

"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in respective Subsidiary Company, CIL e-procurement portal https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and Central Public Procurement Portal https://eprocure.gov.in. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal https://gem.gov.in."

CIDCO
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CORRIGENDUM NO.1

CIDCO of Maharashtra through the process of e-tendering invited bids for **Design, Construction and Commissioning of 4 Nos. of Football pitches of International Standards and allied pavements and landscape works for proposed center of excellence in International Corporate Park (ICP) at Kharghar, Navi Mumbai.** (C.A. No. 02/CIDCO/EE(CP)/2020-21) by publishing in this newspaper on 23/09/2020.

All interested applicants are hereby requested to take note that the date for Document Download/Sale Start Date and Bid Submission End Date is extended upto **22/10/2020** upto 17.00 hrs. The criteria for the above is revised and uploaded on mahatenders.gov.in website.

Superintending Engineer (CP)

CIN - U99999 MH 1970 SGC-014574
www.cidco.maharashtra.gov.in
CIDCO/PR/115(A)/2020-21

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

My Client, **Ramamani,** aged about 54 years, wife of Mr. Ravikumar, residing at No. 134, Shankara Nilaya, 6th Cross, Shastrinagar, Bangalore - 560 028, Mobile: 88611 01049, hereby informs the General Public that, she has lost the below mentioned original documents:

My client states that my client is the absolute owner of the vacant residential **Site No.52, BBMP Khata No. 1402/184/52,** Katha No. 184, in Sy.No. 1/3, converted for residential purpose vide Conversion Order No. B.DIS/ALN/SR(S)215/1988-89, dated 23.01.1989, situated at Doddakallsandra Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West: 30 feet and North to South: 40 feet, in all measuring **1200 sq.ft,** and bounded on the East by: Site No.53, West by: Site No.51, North by: Road and South by: Private Property, having acquired the same and further my client states that the file containing below mentioned original documents of title in respect of the aforesaid property has been lost **on 21.09.2020** at **3 pm.** while going from my aforesaid residence to xerox shop, situated on Bannerghatta Main Road, Bangalore.

(i) Registered deed of sale dated 11.09.1989, bearing document No. 1698/1989-90, pages 146 to 150, Volume No.36, in Book 1, registered at the office of the Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar, Bangalore Taluk, executed by Sri.K.Manjunath, son of Sri.R.K.Murthy, in favour of Sri.G.S.Vijayanandan, son of Sri.G.Sheshadri Rao.

(ii) Registered deed of sale dated 21.03.2001, bearing document No. 12532/2000-01, CD No.57, in book 1, registered at the office of the Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar (Kengeri), Bangalore, executed by Sri.G.S.Vijayanandan, son of Sri.G.Sheshadri, in favour of Sri.Y.Venkataramana, son of Sri.Y.Krishnachar.

The aforesaid original documents of title was in my client's custody when it was lost and a Police Complaint has been filed by my client on 05.10.2020 for having lost the aforesaid documents, vide Lost Report No. 124888/2020. If there is any dispute or claim over the aforesaid property, you may inform me within 7 days from the date of this notice and if anyone finds the aforesaid original documents kindly hand over the same to my address mentioned below:

Jessie Thomas, Advocate
No. 14/1, "Kevin Villa", 24th 'E' Cross
Muneshwaraswamy Layout, Ejipura,
Vivekanagar Post, Bangalore - 560 047.
Mobile : 98451 69302

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed that my clients are interested to purchase / buy the property bearing residential BDA site No. 1468 (One Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Eight) situated at Further extension of Vrushabhavathinagara Layout, 4th 'T' Block, Banashankari 6th Stage, Bangalore, in the layout formed by the Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore measuring East to West: 6.00 (Six) Mts and North to South 9.00 (Nine) Mts, totally measuring 54.00 (Fifty Four) Square Meters, which is bounded on:- East by: BDA Site No.1469, West by: BDA Site No. 1467, North by: Road, South by: BDA site No.1495, from its present owner **Sri Suresh V,** aged about 37 yrs, S/o Sri.Narasimhalu Naidu, residing at No.29A/10, 8th cross, 3rd main road, Srinivasanagara, Bengaluru - 560 050, presently residing at Flat No.303, Shiv Durga's Millenium Apartment, Chennamankere Acchukattu, Bengaluru - 560 085.

Any one having any kind of claim/ objection for the above property can appear in person/through Pleader in writing before the undersigned within 15 days time of this Public Notification with all authenticated original relevant documents. Otherwise the same shall be treated as Nil. Objections and property is lien free/ Encumbrance free and the above named will continue with the rest of the formalities.

Sd/- R. Mohammed Riyazulla,
Advocate,
No.ARK48, 3rd floor, Basavangudi,
R.V.Road, Bengaluru - 560 004.
Phone No.74062 25802

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client C.P. Balaji S/o Late Panduranga Setty, residing at No.301, 2nd Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore-560078 declares that he is the absolute owner and in possession of property shop site No. 209H and 209G situated at HBR 1st Stage, 2nd Block Extension Bangalore which is morefully described hereunder called as schedule property. My client has not offered schedule property for sale nor he is interested in selling the property. It has come to his notice that some third parties having no interest in the schedule property are advertising that the schedule property is for sale, this oral advertisement is totally false and not correct. By this the public are notified that nobody should deal with the schedule property in any manner whatsoever even if do so my client would not be responsible for those acts.

Schedule Property

Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of property bearing shop site No. 209H, khata No. 540, formed by BDA situated at HBR 1st stage, 2nd Block Extension, Bangalore measuring East to West 9.80+10.80/2 Mtrs and North to South 10 Mtrs, totally measuring 103.00 sq. Mtrs and bounded on : East by : Road, West by: Road, North by: Shop site No. 209G, South by :Road.

Item No. 2: All that piece and parcel of property bearing shop site No. 209G, khata No. 539, formed by BDA situated at HBR 1st stage, 2nd Block Extension, Bangalore measuring East to West 12.70+10.00/2 Mtrs and North to South 7.6 Mtrs, totally measuring 86.26 sq. Mtrs and bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Road, North by: Shop site No. 209F, South by: Shop Site No. 209H.

Address: **SIDDAGANGAIAH,** Advocate
No. 452, 1st Floor, 18th Main, 4th 'T' Block, Jayanagara, Bangalore -560041.

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LTD
(A Government of India Undertaking)

OPEN E-TENDER (SINGLE PACKET SYSTEM) INVITATION NOTICE

Name of Work : Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of PLC based SCADA system through OFC based communication for Remote ambiance monitoring & operation of Ventilation system in place of existing dupline based SCADA system for Natuwadi, Parchuri, Karbude, Tike and Berdewadi Tunnels under Ratnagiri region on KRCL route in the state of Maharashtra. **Tender Notice No :** KR/CO/EL/RN/T/11/2020, Date : 12/10/2020.. **Completion Period :** Three Months. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 1,68,20,812/- **Excluding GST. EMD :** Rs. 2,34,200/-. **Last Date & time for Online Submission Of Tender :** 02/11/2020 up to 15.00 Hrs. **Opening of Tender :** On 02/11/2020 at 15.30 Hrs. Amendments/Corrigendum if any, would be uploaded on IREPS website only. **Submissionof Tender Documents :** Through IREPS. Manual Tender Documents shall not be accepted.

भारत सरकार / Government of India
परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग / Department of Atomic Energy
जिर्कोनियम परिसर / Zirconium Complex
(नाभिकीय ईंधन सम्मिश्र, हैदराबाद की एक इकाई /
A Unit of Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad)
Pazhayakayal, Tuticorin – 628 152.

BRIEF NOTICE INVITING TENDER
NIT No. ZC/NFC/ADMN/TPT/2020/009

On behalf of The President of India, General Manager, Zirconium Complex, Pazhayakayal invites sealed tenders for the below following work:

Name of the Work: Hiring of two 13 seater vehicles for transportation of employees of Zirconium Complex from various boarding points in and around of Tuticorin to Zirconium Complex, Pazhayakayal and back in General and ROC Shifts.

01.	Contract Period	140 days
02.	Estimated Cost	Rs.9,57,600/- (Rupees nine lakh fifty seven thousand six hundred only)
03.	Tender Cost	Rs.500/- (Cash or DD)
04.	Earnest Money Deposit @ 2% of estimated cost.	Rs.19,152/-(Rupees Nineteen Thousand One Hundred Fifty Two Only)
05.	Issue of Tender Document	13.10.2020 to 17.10.2020
06.	Last Date of receipt of tender	19.10.2020 upto 1200 Hrs
07.	Date and time of opening	19.10.2020 at 1500 Hrs

Tender forms, terms and conditions etc., may be obtained from AAO, Zirconium Complex, Pazhayakayal by submitting a Demand Draft or Cash for Rs.500/- drawn in favour of AAO, ZC (P) payable at Tuticorin between 1000 Hrs to 1530 Hrs on working days. For clarification please contact us through telephone: 0461-2276056/6059/6156 & mail us zc.admin@nfc.gov.in and zc.aao@nfc.gov.in. For further details of NIT visit NFC website: www.nfc.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed that **my clients (Mrs. K Anasuya & Others)** are the landowners of the residential immovable property bearing Corporation No.400/5 (Old No. 400/1), PID No. 056-W0092-2, 2ndBlock, R.T.Nagar, Ward No. 97, BBMP, Bangalore, total measuring about 23591 sq. ft. which is more fully described in the Schedule. The Hon'ble XVII Additional City Civil & Session Judge, Bengaluru under O.S.NO. 1764/2018 was pleased to pass an order of temporary injunction, restraining M/s. Unishire Housing LLP & Others including their agents in any capacity whatsoever from creating any third-party right or interest. The said order of injunction operates against any person representing the said Unishire Housing LLP, including its Liquidator. As such, the the Sale Notice dated 01/10/2020 issued by the Liquidator would be in contravention of the said order of the Hon'ble City Civil Court.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential immovable property bearing Corporation No.400/5 (Old No. 400/1), PID No. 056-W0092-2, 2ndBlock, R.T. Nagar, Ward No. 97, totally measuring 23,591 Square Feet falling within the jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and including all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto and bounded as follows: EAST BY : Storm water drain WEST BY: Private property, private passage and 14th cross road, NORTH BY : Private property, SOUTH BY: Private property

Sd/- K.M. Subair, Advocate
AKS LEGALNo. 151, 1st Main Road,
MLA Layout, RT Nagar, Bangalore-32
Email: akslegalblr@gmail.com
Mob: 9972743955
Date: 12.10.2020 Place: Bangalore

Government of Karnataka
KARNATAKA SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION BOARD
6th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 003
Ph: 080- 23349434 Fax:23347670
No: B5/P.P.E-S.T/06/2020-21 Date:06.10.2020

e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Director, Exams, Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board, hereby invites e-tenders from eligible tenderers for "**SUPPLY OF VARIOUS TYPES OF ENVELOPES ALONG WITH OVERPRINTING FOR 2021 SSLC EXAMINATIONS WORK**" as per KTPP Act-1999, through e-procurement portal only. Tender documents may be downloaded from **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** and **www.kseeb.kar.nic.in** Tender commencement date is **12.10.2020.** Pre–bid meeting is on **27.10.2020 at 11.30 a.m.** The last date for submission of tender is **10.11.2020 at 5.00 p.m.** Date of opening Technical bid is on **12.11.2020 at 11.30 a.m.** Date of opening Commercial bid is on **17.11.2020 at 11.30 a.m.** The approximate value of tender is **Rs.19,44,000/- (Rs. Nineteen lakhs forty four thousand Only).** The Earnest Money Deposit is **Rs. 38,880/-.** Other details may be obtained from KSEEB during office hours.

Sd/- Director (Exams)

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
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PUBLIC NOTICE OF E-AUCTION SALE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

(In terms of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act 2002)
Whereas the Authorized Officer of the Bank has issued a Demand notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI ACT 2002 and thereafter in exercise of powers under Section 13(12) of SARFAESI ACT 2002 has taken possession of properties mortgaged to Bank under Section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT 2002. The undersigned in the capacity of Authorized Officer has decided for sale of the following properties to public by E-auction and invite bids from the intending purchasers for purchase of immovable properties mentioned hereunder on "AS IS WHERE IS" & "AS IS WHAT IS" basis.

Sl. No.	Name & Address of Borrower's / Guarantor.	a) Date of Demand Notice b) Amount due as per notice c) Date of Possession d) Present outstanding dues.	a) Date & Time for Inspection of Property b) Last Date & Time of submission of EMD & documents. c) Date & Time of E-Auction	a) Reserve Price b) EMD Amount c) Bid Increase Amount
1	Borrower: 1. Mr. Sampath Kumar B, S/o Balaraj # No.17, Sharavathi Nilaya, Shastha Nagar S.M. Road, Jalahalli West, Bengalore- 560015. 2. Mrs. Geetha S, W/o Mr. Sampath Kumar B # No. 16, 6th Cross, Peenya, Ayyappa Nagar Jalahalli West, Bangalore- 560015 Mortgagor:- Mr.Sampath Kumar B, S/o Balaraj	a) 29.9.2018 b) Rs.1,91,27,681/- (Two Accounts) plus interest, expenses, charges etc., w.e.f 1.7.2017 c) 15.12.2018 d) Rs.35,83,421.94 plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.53,82,000/- b) Rs.5,38,200/- c) Rs. 25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property :(ITEM-1)TITLE/ SALE DEED NO:- 27265/ 2006-07, Dt:- 20-02-2006. All that piece and parcel of the Residential Immovable Property bearing Muncipal No.16, Peenya Grampanchayat No.165/20, at 6th Main, Ayyappa Nagar, Jallahalli west, Bangalore Ward No-1, Bangalore, Measuring East to West: 24' Feet and North to South 30'Feet in total Measuring 720 Sqft and Bounded on the: East by :- Property of Air Force, West by :- Road, North by :- Site No.19, South by :- Site No.21. IN THE NAME OF : Mr. SAMPATH KUMAR B, S/O BALARAJ. Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623			
2	Borrower: 1. Mr. Sampath Kumar B, S/o Balaraj # No.17, Sharavathi Nilaya, Shastha Nagar S.M. Road, Jalahalli West, Bengalore- 560015. 2. Mrs. Geetha S, W/o Mr. Sampath Kumar B # No. 16, 6 Th Cross, Peenya, Ayyappa Nagar Jalahalli West, Bangalore- 560015 Mortgagor:- Mr.Sampath Kumar B, S/o Balaraj	a) 29.9.2018 b) Rs.1,91,27,681/- plus interest, expenses, charges etc., w.e.f 1.7.2017 c) 15.12.2018 d) Rs.1,48,34,690/- plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.2,32,00,000/- b) Rs.23,20,000/- c) Rs. 25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property : (ITEM-2)TITLE/ SALE DEED NO:- 5323/ 2015-16, Dt:- 07-12-2015. All that piece and parcel of the Residential Immovable Property bearing Site No.37, Khatha No.116/1, formed in Sy No.116, duly converted into Agricultural to Non-Agricultural Residential Purpose vide Conversion Order No. B.DIS.ALN.SR (N).28/1995-96, Dated 15-11-1995, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), Bengaluru District, Bengaluru, Situated at BAGALAGUNTE VILLAGE, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, previously under Dasarahalli CMC, Presently under the jurisdiction of BBMP-Ward No-14, Bangalore, Measuring East to West: 40' Feet and North to South: 60'Feet in total Measuring in all 2400 Sqft and together with all rights appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and Bounded on the: East by :- Property No.36, West by :- Property No.38, North by :- Road, South by:- Property No.48. IN THE NAME OF : Mr.SAMPATH KUMAR B, S/O BALARAJ Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623			
3	Borrower: 1. Mr. Ravi K. T, S/o Tirumal Gowda 2. Mrs.Maha Devamma, W/o Mr.Ravi K.T, # No. 86, 2nd Cross, Shrigandha Nagar, Hegganahalli, Bangalore – 560091. Office Address:- M/s S/L/V/ Telecom, # No. 86, 2nd Cross, Shrigandha Nagar, Hegganahalli, Bangalore – 560091. Mortgagor:- Mr. Ravi K.T, S/o Tirumal Gowda	a) 28.11.2016 b) Rs.51,35,893.80 plus interest, expenses, charges etc., w.e.f 1.7.2016 c) 2.3.2017 d) Rs.53,78,824/- plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.59,00,000/- b) Rs.5,90,000/- c) Rs. 25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property : SALE DEED NO- 2120/2014-15, DT:- 02-09-2014 - All that piece & parcel of the Residential Property Bearing Site No.107, Dasarahalli, Muncipal Corporation No.897, Sy no.82/1 situated at Srigandhadakaval Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Measuring East to West : 30' Feet and North to South : 40' Feet in all measuring 1200 Sqft and Bounded on the: East by :- Property Bearing No.106, West by :- 30 Feet Road, North by :- Property of Smt. Kamalamma, South by :- Property Bearing No.108, IN THE NAME OF: Mr.RAVI K.T, S/O TIRUMAL GOWDA Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623			
4	Borrower: 1. Mrs. Bhavani Shamanna, W/o Manjunath P 2. Mr. MANJUNATH P, S/O PAPAIAH # No. 35/3, 4th Cross, 3rd Main, Ganesha Block, R.T.Nagar, Ward No- 32, Bangalore- 32. Office Address:- M/s Manjunath Hardware, Proprietor:- Mrs. Bhavani Shamanna # No.708, Hesarghatta Main Road, Mallasandra, BANGALORE -15 Mortgagor:- Mrs.BHAVANI SHAMANNA	a) 3.9.2018 b) Rs.2,40,91,942/- plus interest, expenses, charges etc., w.e.f 1.5.2017 c) 19.11.2018 d) Rs.2,28,03,205.20 plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.5,75,00,000/- b) Rs.57,50,000/- c) Rs. 25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property - TITLE/ SALE DEED NO:- 5762/2013-14, dt:- 27-03-2014. All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing Site No.12, Property No.42, Ward No.46, Papaiah Garden, Situated at Matadahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk and Measuring East to West : 118 feet and North to South :- 42.3 Feet in all measuring 4991.4 SQFT and Bounded on the :- East by :- 'C' Property No.13 belong to Sri.P.Venugopal, West by :- 'B' Property No.11 belongs to Sri P.Krishnappa, North by :- Property belongs to children of Late Narayanappa, South by :- 22 Feet Road, IN THE NAME OF : Mrs.BHAVANI SHAMANNA. Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623			
5	Borrower: 1. Mr. Lakshmi Narayan N, S/o Narayanappa 2. Mrs. Kousalya D, W/o Mr.Lakshmi Narayan N #1115, No.17, Shettihally, Saraswathy Vidyaniketan School, Jalahalli West, Bangalore- 560015. Office Address: - M/s Vinayak Transport Prop:- Mr.Lakshmi Narayan N, #1115, No.17, Shettihalli, Saraswathy Vidyaniketan School, Jallahali West, Bangalore - 560015 Mortgagor:- Mrs. Kousalya, W/o Mr.Lakshmi Narayana	a) 28.10.2016 b) Rs.1,98,59,060.84 plus int, expenses, charges etc., w.e.f 1.5.2016 c) 23.2.2017 d) Rs.2,01,33,152/- Plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.1,40,00,000/- b) Rs.14,00,000/- c) Rs. 25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property - SALE DEED NO- 1713 / 2015-16, dt:-07.07.2015. ITEM NO.1:- All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing Site No.3, Khatha No.387/3, Old Khatha No.2, Assessment No.78, Situated at Shettihalli Village, Yeswantapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Now comes under jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.12, Bangalore, Measuring East to West : 42 Feet and North to South : 28 Feet in all measuring 1176 Square Feet and Bounded on the: East by :- Property belongs to Kempaiah, West by :- Road, North by :- Site bearing No.4, South by :- Site bearing No.2. ITEM NO.2:- All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing Site No.4, Khatha No.265, Assessment No.78, Situated at Shettihalli Village, Yeswantapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Now comes under jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.12, Bangalore, Measuring East to West : 40 Feet and North to South : 32 Feet in all measuring 1280 Square Feet and Bounded on the: East by :- Property belongs to Muddaiah, West by :- Road, North by :- Property belongs to Narasimha Murthy, South by :- Site bearing No.3. IN THE NAME OF: Mrs.KOUSALYA, W/O Mr.LAKSHMI NARAYANA. Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623			
6	Borrower: 1. Mr. Lakshmi Narayan C, S/o Chikkaramaiah 2. Mrs. Mamatha N, W/o Lakshmi Narayana C # No.14, 1st Main Road, 2nd Cross, Munigurappa Layout, Amruthahalli, Bangalore- 560092, Office Address:- M/s Om Furniture Centres, Proprietor : - Mr.Lakshmi Narayan C # No.3077, 1st Main Road, Mallasandra, Bangalore- 560092. Mortgagor:- Sri.Lakshmi Narayana. C,	a) 23.8.2018 b) Rs.70,92,370/- plus interest, expenses, charges etc., w.e.f 1.5.2017 c) 19.11.2018 d) Rs.72,68,033.75 Plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.70,00,000/- b) Rs.7,00,000/- c) Rs. 25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property - TITLE DEED NO- 2076 /15-16, DT:- 29-07-2015. All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing Site No.66, formed in Converted Old Survey No.69, Re.Sy No.69/2, duly converted from Agricultural to non-agricultural residential purpose, vide Conversaion Order No.B.DIS.ALN.SR(N) 126/03-04, dt:- 29.12.2003, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Situated at Shettyhalli Village, Yeswanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, now comes under jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.12 Bangalore, Measuring East to West : 40 Feet and North to South : 30 Feet in all measuring 1200 Square Feet and bounded on : - East by :- Road, West by :- Property No.105, North by :- Property No.67, South by :- Property No.65, IN THE NAME OF : Sri.LAKSHMI NARAYANA. C. Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623			
7	Borrower: 1. Mr.Bhaskar S, S/o Subba Ganiga 2. Mrs. Asha M, W/o Mr. Bhaskar S #No. 47, Shree Annapurneshwari Nilaya 11th Main, Raghavendra Layout, Jalahali (west) Kammagondanahalli, Bangalore- 560015 Office Address:- M/s Manjunath Uphar (Hotel Business) Proprietor : - Mr. Bhaskar S #No. 47, Raghavendra Layout, Jalahali (west) Kammagondanahalli, Bangalore- 560015 Mortgagor:- Mr.Bhaskar S, S/o Subba Ganiga	a) 3.9.2018 b) Rs.1,16,98,964/- plus interest, expenses, charges etc., w.e.f 1.4.2017 c) 19.11.2018 d) Rs.95,43,815/- plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.1,02,10,000/- b) Rs.10,21,000/- c) Rs.25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property - TITLE/ SALE DEED NO:- 1937/2010-11, dt:- 08-07-2010. All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing Site No.140, formed in Sy No.68/1 and 68/2 (Converted for Non-Agricultural Residential Purpose vide order Reference No. BDS.ALN (N) S.R 23/2004-05, DT:- 08.06.2004), Shettyhalli village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Banglaore North Taluk, measuring East to West 54 Feet and North to South 65 Feet in all measuring 3510 Square Feet and Bounded on the :- East by :- Property of Temple West by :- Road, North by :- Road, South by :- Private Property, IN THE NAME OF : Mr.BHASKAR S, S/O SUBBA GANIGA. Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623			
8	Borrower: 1. Mr.Mohan N, S/O Nagaraju Mohan Transport, No.781, 2 nd Main Road, Chamrajpet, Bangalore- 560002. 2. Mrs. Lakshmi N, W/o Nagaraju # No.10/A, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross, Sai Layout, Arehalli,Subramaniyapura, Banglore- 560061. Mortgagor:- Mr.Mohan.N.	a) 20.7.2018 b) Rs.1,89,30,914/-plus interest, expenses, charges etc. w.e.f 1.11.2016 c) 11.10.2018 d) Rs.1,83,72,755.20 plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.2,35,00,000/- b) Rs.23,50,000/- c) Rs. 25,000/
	Description of Immovable Property - TITLE DEED NO- 4598/2015-16, dT:-11.12.2015. All that piece and parcel of the immovable Property bearing Site No.488, BBMP Khatha No.464/464/488/455, in the Layout formed by N.G.E.F, Employees Housing Building Co-Operative Society Ltd.. Formed in the Lands bearing Survey No.13, situated at Nagarbhavi Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, now comes under jurisdiction of BBMP ward NO.129, Bangalore, the Layout Plan sanctioned by the Bangalore Development Authority, vide its Resulution No.BDA.470(A), dated 20.12.1982, HUD 410 MNX 83. Dated : 16.07.1983, Bangalore, Measuring East to West : (30.0+44.0)/2 Feet and North to South : 46.0 Feet, in all measuring 1886 Square Feet (209.5 Square Yards or 175.16 Square Mtrs.) and bounded on : - East by :- 40-0 Feet Road, West by :- Site No.487, North by :- Site No. 489, South by :- 30-0 Feet Road, IN THE NAME OF : Mr. MOHAN N. Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623			
9	Borrower: 1. Mr. Mahesh A, S/o Anjanappa 2. Mrs. Neela R, W/o Mr. Mahesh A Office Address:- M/s Hanuman Enterprises, Proprietor : -Mr.Mahesh A, #no. 240, Abbigere, Abbigere Village, Kammagodanahalli, Bangalore- 560090 Mortgagor:- Smt. Neela R, W/o Mr. Mahesh A	a) 23.8.2018 b) Rs.1,25,94,932/- plus interest, expenses, charges etc., w.e.f 1.6.2017 c) 19.11.2018 d) Rs.1,24,15,513/- Plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.81,60,000/- b) Rs.8,16,000/- c) Rs. 25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property -TITLE/ SALE DEED NO:- 4195/2015-16, dt:- 24-11-2015. All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing Site No.5, Old Katha No.19/1, New Katha No.296, Situated at Abbigere Village, Yeswanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, BBMPWard No.12 Bangalore, Measuring East to West : 30 Feet and North to South : 40 Feet in all measuring 1200 Square Feet and bounded on : - East by :- 30' wide Road, West by :- Property No.4, North by :- Cross Road, South by :- Property No.6, IN THE NAME OF : Smt.NEELAR. Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623			
10	Borrower: 1. Mr.Radhakrishna R S/o Late Ramachandrappa 2. Mrs.Mahalakshmi R W/o Mr.Radhakrishna R both residing at # No.715, 1st to 13th Cross, Mallasandra, T. Dasarahalli, Bangalore-560057. Mortgagor:- Mr.Radhakrishn	a) 16.7.2018 b) Rs.63,67,503/- plus interest, expenses,charges etc. w.e.f 1.12.2016 c) 11.10.2018 d) Rs.60,41,576.82 plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.97,00,000/- b) Rs.9,70,000/- c) Rs. 25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property SALE DEED NO- 11409 / 2011-12, dt:-27.03.2012. All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing No.28, Municipal Corporation Katha No.61. Formerly Site No.28, House List No.352, formed in Survey No.4, Layout formed by the Malleshwaram Tailoring Co-Operative Society Ltd.situated at Dasarahalli Village, Yeshawanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, Previously Dasarahalli C.M.C Ward No.11, Presently comes under the limits of BBMP-Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Ward No.13, and site Measuring is East to West : 30 Feet and North to South : 42 Feet in all Measuring 1260 Square Feet, along with 4 Square R.C.C Building and 5 Square A.C Sheet House, Red-Oxide Flooring with all civic amenities and bounded on : - East by :- Site No.29, West by :- Site No.27 North by :- Private Property , South by :- Road . IN THE NAME OF : Mr. RADHAKRISHNA. R. Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623			
11	Borrower: 1. Mrs. Lakshmi Chandrashekar, W/o R. Chandrashekar 2. Mr.Tejas Chandrashekar, S/o R. Chandrashekar Both Are In # No.107, 1st Cross, Gajanana Nagar, Hegganahalli, Bangalore – 560091 Office Address: - Sri Lakshmi Venkateshwara Enterprisees Proprietor : - Mr. Tejas Chandrashekar 7th Cross, Mahadeswanagar Main Road, Vishwaneedam Post, Bangalore- 560091 Mortgagor:- Mrs. Lakshmi Chandrashekar	a) 16.8.2018 b) Rs.61,54,169.80 plus interest, expenses, charges etc., w.e.f 1.3.2017 c) 19.11.2018 d) Rs.62,17,723.80 plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.66,40,000/- b) Rs.6,64,000/- c) Rs.25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property :TITLE DEED NO:- 3464/2014-15, Dt:-24.11.2014 All that piece and parcel of the immovable Property bearing No.56, Assessment No.53, Katha No.1475, Old Katha No.758, Situated at Hegganahalli Village, Yeswanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, within limits of Dasarahalli CMC Ward No.34, Now comes under jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.71, Bangalore, Measuring East to West : 15 Feet and North to South : 50 Feet in all measuring 750 Square Feet and bounded on the : - East by :- Property no.57, West by :- Private Property, North by :- Road, South by :- Private Property, IN THE NAME OF : -Smt. C. LAKSHMI Branch : Jayanagar, Ph.: 26633347 / 22446876 E-mail : jayana@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 06230210000915 IFSC Code : UCBA0000623 Mr. Bachan Kumar Singh, Mobile No-9945049483, Mr Atul Kumar Sinha, Mobile No-7080945240			
12	Borrower: M/s Srimaya Builders and Developers PARTNERS 1. Mr. Gangadhar T.P, S/o Parameswarappa – #No.240, 7th Cross, 8th Main, MEI Layout, Bangalore –560073. 2. Mr. Rangaswamy, S/o Boregowda – #No.20/5, 10th Cross, Sri Bhagya Nilaya, Behind Spoorthi English School, Bagalagunte, Nagasandra Post, Bangalore – 560073 3. Mr. Krishnappa A.T, S/o Venkata Ramanaiah - #No.42, Sapthagiri Nivasa, 3rd A Cross, 8th Main, Bhuvaneswari Nagar,T.Dasarahalli, Bangalore - 560 057. Mortgagor:- (All Three Partner of M/s Srimaya Builders and Developers) GUARANTOR:- (All Three Partner of M/s Srimaya Builders and Developers) 1. Mr. Gangadhar T.P, S/o Parameswarappa, 2. Mr. Rangaswamy, S/o Boregowda 3. Mr. Krishnappa A.T, S/o Venkata Ramanaiah	a) 8.4.2019 b) Rs.4,10,97,946/- plus interest, expenses, charges etc., w.e.f 28.2.2019 c) 12.6.2019 d) Rs.3,48,58,194/- plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.2,60,00,000/- b) Rs. 26,00,000/- c) Rs.25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property - 1. Sale Deed No. 1042/2011-12 Dated 21.06.2011 Item No. 2. All that piece and parcel of Sale Deed No. 1042/2011-12 Dated 21.06.2011 Item No. 2, survey No 165/3B3 situated at Thavarekere Village, Thavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk (converted vide order reference no ALN(ST) SR 79/10-11 dated 24.02.2011), measuring 1 acre 3 guntas and 1 gunta karab and bounded on the: East by: Land belongs to Mudalagiriyappa, West by: Land belongs to Lakshmidevamma, North by: Land belongs to Children of Chikkamma, South by: Government Oni and Land belong to T.M. Gangaiah, 2. All that piece and parcel of Sale Deed No. 1042/2011-12 Dated 21.06.2011 Item No. 1, survey No 165/3B2, situated at Thavarekere Village, Thavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring 36 guntas and 2 gunta karab and bounded on the: East by: Land belongs to Krishnappa, West by: Remaining Portion and Land belongs to children of Munihanumakka, North by: Land belongs to Children of Chikkamma, South by: Government Oni and Land belong to Narasegowda. IN THE NAME OF : M/S SRIMAYA BUILDERS AND DEVELOPERS. Branch : Hesaraghata Branch, Ph.: 080-28379615 E-mail :- hesara@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 21040210001332 IFSC Code : UCBA0002104.			
13	Borrower: 1.Mr. S. Kiran Kumar S/o Late Sreenivasa Murthy 2. Savitha L W/o S Kiran Kumar No.62/1 (Old No.62), PID No.133-WO145-59, Binny Layout, Hampi Nagar, RPC Layout, Bangalore - 560104.	a) 28.10.2019 b) Rs.2,26,17,647/- plus interest, expenses, charges etc., C) 6.2.2020 d) Rs.2,28,67,917/- plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	Shown Against each Property below.
	Description of Immovable Property - All that piece and parcel of the Residential Building Bearing Flat No.B001, B105, B106, B205, B206, B305, B306, "NISARGA CAPITAL" APARTMENT, Khata No.1117/148/3, E-Khata No.150300401000102507, Converted Khata No.148/3, Adjacent to Nisarga Layout, Hoskote, Malur Road, Kannurhalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bengaluru -562114. Building have Stilt + GF and 3 upper Floor. All are 2BHK Flat. Total Site bounded on East by: Sy No.162 & 163, West by: Sy No.149 & 150, North by: Remaining land in Sy No.148/3 and South by: Road and Brook. IN THE NAME OF Mr. S Kiran Kumar. (L-13.064465, L-77.805442). 1. Flat No. B001 having super built up area 1223 sq.ft in Ground Floor and Bounded on East by : Corridor & Flat No.B010, West By : Open Space, North by : Flat No.B002 and South by : Open Space. a) Reserve Price : Rs.33,67,000/- b) EMD Amount : Rs. 3,36,700/- c) Bid Increase Amount : Rs.25,000/- 2. Flat No. B105 having super built up area 1165 sq.ft in First Floor and Bounded on East by : Corridor & Flat No.B106, West By : Open Space, North by : Open Space and South by :Flat No.B104. a) Reserve Price : Rs. 32,14,000/- b) EMD Amount : Rs.3,21,400/- c) Bid Increase Amount : Rs.25,000/- 3. Flat No. B106 having super built up area 1110 sq.ft in First Floor and Bounded on East by : Open Space, West By : Corridor & Flat No.B105, North by : Open Space and South by :Flat No.B107. a) Reserve Price : Rs. 30,66,000/- b) EMD Amount : Rs.3,06,600/- c) Bid Increase Amount : Rs.25,000/- 4. Flat No. B205 having super built up area 1165 sq.ft in Second Floor and Bounded on East by : Corridor & Flat No.B206, West By : Open Space, North by : Open Space and South by :Flat No.B204. a) Reserve Price : Rs. 32,14,000/- b) EMD Amount : Rs.3,21,400/- c) Bid Increase Amount : Rs.25,000/- 5. Flat No. B206 having super built up area 1110 sq.ft in Second Floor and Bounded on East by : Open Space, West By : Corridor & Flat No.B205, North by : Open Space and South by : Flat No.B207. a) Reserve Price : Rs. 30,66,000/- b) EMD Amount : Rs.3,06,600/- c) Bid Increase Amount : Rs.25,000/- 6. Flat No. B305 having super built up area 1165 sq.ft in Third Floor and Bounded on East by : Corridor & Flat No.B306, West By : Open Space, North by : Open Space and South by : Flat No.B304. a) Reserve Price : Rs. 32,14,000/- b) EMD Amount : Rs.3,21,400/- c) Bid Increase Amount : Rs.25,000/- 7. Flat No. B306 having super built up area 1110 sq.ft in Third Floor and Bounded on East by : Open Space, West By : Corridor & Flat No.B305, North by : Open Space and South by :Flat No.B307. a) Reserve Price : Rs. 30,66,000/- b) EMD Amount : Rs.3,06,600/- c) Bid Increase Amount : Rs.25,000/- Branch : Hoskote Branch, Ph.:080-27931370 E-mail : Hosako@ucobank.co.in A/C No. : 24430210000199 IFSC Code : UCBA0002443			
14	Borrower: Mr. S.Kiran Kumar & Mrs. Savaitha L No.62/1, (Old No.62), PID No.133-w0145-59, Binny Layout, Hampi Nagar, RPC Layout, Vijayanagara, Bangalore - 560 104.	a) 28.10.2019 b) Rs.1,00,32,077/- plus interest, expenses, charges etc., c) 11.6.2020 d) Rs.1,00,69,469/- plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.1,42,00,000/- b) Rs.14,20,000/- c) Rs.25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property : All that part and parcel of the Residential Property bearing Door No.9, PID No.35-140-9, Site No.56, Old Khata No.48, 4th Cross, Priyadarshini Layout, Nagarbhavi Main Road, Malagalu Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore - 560 040. measuring 1200 Sq.ft and 3 Storey Building (Stilt + GF+FF+SF) (L-12.970816, L-77.527269) and bounded on East by : Property no 10 belongs to Muniswamappa's Property, West by : Property No.8 belongs to Joseph's Property, North by : Meena Sudhakar's Property and South by : 4th Cross Road. IN THE NAME OF MR. S KIRAN KUMAR Branch : HSR Layout, Ph.: 25726060/25722757 E-mail : banhsr@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 19580210000694 IFSC Code : UCBA0001958			
15	Borrower: Mr. S.Kiran Kumar & Mrs. Savaitha L No.62/1, (Old No.62), PID No.133-w0145-59, Binny Layout, Hampi Nagar, RPC Layout, Vijayanagara, Bangalore - 560 104.	a) 28.10.2019 b) Rs.1,47,02,372/- plus interest, expenses, charges etc., c) 10.2.2020 d) Rs.1,35,34,672/- plus unapplied interest and costs charges etc.	a) 23.10.2020 Between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm b) On or before 27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon c) 27.10.2020 between 12 noon to 4.00 pm	a) Rs.2,29,77,000/- b) Rs.22,97,700/- c) Rs.25,000/-
	Description of Immovable Property : All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing Plot No.30,Khata No.157, Sy No.157/3a, Nisarga Hi Tech Phase -1, Kannurhalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bangalore - 562114. measuring 9615.75 Sq.ft vacant Land (N-13.068477, E-77.807378) and bounded on East by : Sy No.157/3A, West by : Site No.31, Sy No.159, North by : Road and South by :Private Property. IN THE NAME OF MR. S KIRAN KUMAR Branch : HSR Layout, Ph.: 25726060/25722757 E-mail : banhsr@ucobank.co.in A/C No.: 19580210000694 IFSC Code : UCBA0001958			

TERMS & CONDITIONS:
1. The auction sale will be "online e-auction" bidding through website **https//www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp. 2.** Date and time of auction : **27.10.2020 between 12 noon. to 04:00 p.m. as per (IST). 3.** Last date & time of submission of EMD & documents: **27.10.2020 before 12.00 noon** to be paid to MSTC Wallet by generating online challan from the site by login. **4.** Auction would be conducted for an initial period of **240 minutes** followed by unlimited extensions of **10 minutes** each, in case a valid bid is received in last **10 minutes**. **5.** Auction would commence at Reserve price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiples of **Rs.25,000/- (Twenty Five Thousand only)**. **6.** In case of sole bidder the bid amount quoted in his/her bid form must be improved by at least one bid incremental value, lest the sale shall be cancelled/deferred. **7.** All Intending bidder shall register with the E-AUCTION portal to create their user ids and passwords. Bidders have to register online by providing their KYC documents and registration fees as prescribed by service provider (MSTC). Once the KYC documents are verified by MSTC, the registration will be activated within a period of maximum two working days from the date of submission of all KYC documents and registration fee. **8.** The interested bidders who require assistance in creating login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting bid documents, Training/ Demonstration, Terms and conditions Online Inter-se Bidding etc. may visit website **https//www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp. For any property related query may contact the Chief Manager (Recovery) Mr. Raj Kumar Bhole, Mobile No-7090005115, Email- zoblr.rec@ucobank.co.in. 9.** The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% of the purchase amount (including earnest money already paid), immediately on closure of the E- Auction Sale proceedings on the same day or next day of the Sale in the same mode as mentioned above and if he fails to deposit the same, the amount deposited towards the earnest money shall be forfeited and the property shall be sold again. The balance 75% of the purchase price shall have to be paid within 15 days or within the extended time from the date of confirmation of sale by the authorized officer. In case of default, all amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited including earnest money deposited. **10.** The EMD of unsuccessful bidder will be returned on the closure of the E-auction sale proceedings within 3 days and shall not carry any interest. **11.** The Successful bidder has to bear the TDS 0.75 % if the property value exceeds 50 lakh. **12.** The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank, if the borrower pays in full before sale, no sale will be conducted. **13.** The property is sold in "As is Where is" and "As is What is" condition and the intending bidder should make discreet enquiries as regards on the property with any authority besides the banks charges and should satisfy themselves about the title, extent, quality and quantity of the property before submitting their bid. No claim of whatsoever nature regarding the property put for sale, charges encumbrances over the property on any other matter etc. will be entertained after submission of the online bid. **14.** The undersigned has the absolute right and discretion to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale /modify any terms and conditions of the sale without any prior notice and assigning any reasons. **15.** The purchaser shall bear the stamp duties, charges including those of sale certificate registration charges, all taxes, rates, statutory dues payable to Government or any Authority etc. both existing and future and relating to the property. The sale certificate will be issued only in the name of successful bidder. **16.** The intending purchaser can inspect the property on the date & time mentioned against respective properties above. **17.** The sale is subject to conditions prescribed in the SARFAESI Act / Rules 2002 and the conditions mentioned above. **18. This Notice is also to be treated as 15 days Statutory sale notice to borrower and Guarantor Under Rule 9(1) Security Interest (Enforcement), Rules 2002.**

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION/CAUTION

Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither UCO Bank nor the Service provider will be responsible for any lapses /failure (internet failure, power failure, etc) on the part of the vendor, in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/ alternatives such as back-up power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 12.10.2020

Authorised Officer
UCO Bank

The CBI found that the power company owned by Andhra Pradesh MP K Raghurama Krishnam Raju delayed construction work for a project in Tamil Nadu so as to divert funds to other accounts

Maoists change tack, stab TRS leader to death in front of his kin

Six ultras drag him out of his home even as the family beseeched them to leave him alone

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mulugu/Asifabad/Bhadrachalam

IN what seems to be a tactical change in operations, activists of the CPI (Maoist) stabbed a local TRS leader to death in front of his family at Alubaka in Venkatapuram mandal of Mulugu district on Saturday midnight.

With this, the Maoists seem to have sent a message that they are undeterred by the recent meeting of the senior police officers of Telangana, Chhattisgarh and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) at Venkatapuram. Held earlier this month, it was attended by Senior Security Advisor to the Ministry of Home K Vijay Kumar, Telangana DGP M Mahender Reddy, DG CRPF AP Maheshwari and several top-ranking officers, who discussed strategies to deal with the growing Maoist menace.

According to sources, TRS leader **Maduri Bhimeswara Rao**, who was also a fertiliser dealer, was hacked to death by about six Maoists. They dragged him out of his home even as the distraught family beseeched them to leave him alone. Bhimeswara Rao is survived by his wife Kumari and three children.

Kumari said first, six persons asked her husband to come out of the house, seeking financial help for medical treatment for one of them. "My husband suspected something sinister as they were armed. When we did not open the door, they broke it open with an iron rod and barged into the house. We fell at their feet and pleaded with them to leave us alone, but they brutally murdered my husband in front of us," she said.

According to the police, the Maoists, before leaving, left a two-page letter in which they demanded that the TRS and BJP leaders resign from their parties or else they would also meet a similar fate as Bhimeswara Rao's. The letter also stated that the leader cheated farmers by selling pesticides at a high price, branded all those who questioned him as Maoist informants and tipped off the police to go after them. He was a money lender and bled the poor farmers white by charging exorbitant rates of interest, the letter stated.

BYPOLL BLUES

Khushbu to join BJP? Actress keeps mum

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chennai

ACTOR-turned-politician Khushbu Sundar will join the BJP on Monday in New Delhi, sources in the saffron party in Chennai said late Sunday night. However, Khushbu, a national spokesperson of the Congress party, could not be reached for comment. She had refused to answer questions from reporters on this while at the airport earlier in the evening.

A BJP party source told *TNIE* that Khushbu would be joining the party in presence of its national president JP Nadda. BJP sources also said an IRS officer from Tamil Nadu and a YouTuber are likely to join the party on Monday. The party's State president L Murugan has been camping in New Delhi since Saturday.

For a month now, speculation has been rife that Khushbu might join the BJP. Some of her tweets in recent months were seen as a signal to the saffron party that her attitude towards the party had changed. Notably, she diverged from her party's stance by welcoming the National Educational Policy, even tweeting an apology to party leader Rahul Gandhi for her differing views. But on October 6, participating in a Congress event, she stoutly denied the rumours.

On Sunday evening, ahead of boarding a flight to Delhi, Khushbu declined to answer the questions from reporters. Asked whether she was joining the BJP, she said, "No comments." Questioned whether she was still a member of the Congress, she declined to answer.

Khushbu joined the Congress in 2014, having earlier been a member of the DMK from 2010. Born in a Muslim family in Mumbai, Khushbu was one of the most popular Tamil film stars in the 1990s. At the peak of her career, fans even dedicated a temple to her. She moved on to act in television serials and is also a popular television presenter.

Music composer Rajan of famed duo passes away

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

NOTED music composer Rajan (of the Rajan-Nagendra musical duo fame) passed away after a cardiac arrest at his residence in Bengaluru on Sunday night. He was 87.

Confirming this to *The New Indian Express*, son Ananth Kumar said his father was healthy but had developed gastric issues on Saturday and had a bloated stomach. "Doctor informed us that he is no more around 11 pm on Sunday," he said. Rajan is the elder brother of Nagendra. The latter died of a stroke in November 2000.

Rajan, along with his brother Nagendra, had created a niche for themselves for decades, and have given innumerable hits. The duo also hold a record for being the longest active musical pair in the industry.

Rajan studied at SLN School and later in Central High School where he took part in state-level violin competition and secured first place. Rajan and Nagendra became independent music directors with Swobhagya Lakshmi in 1952. The duo together composed music for 400 films, during the late 1950 to early 1990s including over 200 songs in Kannada, and the rest in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Tulu and Sinhalese. Some of the best compositions are for films like 'Nyayave Devaru', 'Gandhada Gudi', 'Devara Gudi', 'Bhagyavantaru', 'Eradu Kanasu', 'Naa Ninna Mareyalaare', 'Naa Ninna Bidalaare', 'Hombisilu', 'Bayalu Daari', 'Pavana Ganga' and 'Giri Kanye' among others.

They worked with well-known lyricists like Uday Shankar, Hunasur Krishnamurthy, Vijaya Narasimha, Geetha Priya and singers like late Ghantasala, Vani Jayaram, P B Srinivas, Chitra, Kishore Kumar, S P Balasubrahmanyam, S Janaki, L R Eshwari, P Susheela, among others.

Persian traveller coined the term Hindu: Bhagwan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

STOKING a fresh controversy, rationalist and author K S Bhagwan, known for his sharp views, questioned the historical backing of the Hindu religion and said there was no mention of even the term Hindu anywhere in texts including the Vedas and it was coined by a Persian travellers first.

Bhagwan said the term Hindu finds mention first through a Persian traveller's accounts who termed the river Sindhu as Hindu because in their language 'Si' was not there. "The term is not mentioned anywhere in the Upanishads, Vedas or any other ancient texts," he said.

Speaking to media persons here on Sunday to announce the Mahisha Dasara celebrations this year, he said that what was being projected as Hinduism was nothing but Brahminism which is based on the supremacy of certain sections and demeans Shudras through texts like the Manusmriti. On the contrary, he said that Buddhism finds rich mention because it was the major religion of the country.

SET IN STONE

Sculptors carve a story of Buddha in stone, in Bhubaneswar on Friday | IRFANA

BRIGHT YOUNG MINDS

IIT Dharwad students develop app to detect fake news

ARUNKUMAR HURALIMATH
@Hubballi

IN the present digital era, fake news reaches people before even the real news does. It is very difficult to identify the credibility of information being circulated. To identify whether the news floating around is fake or real, students from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Dharwad have developed a mobile application.

The application students can be installed on a mobile phone, and the user can upload the news they receive on social media groups. Within a few seconds, the application will show whether the news is fake or real. Also, if it turns out to be fake, the app gives information about the right news.

It has become difficult for people to identify the credibility of news they get on social media. Without quoting sources, some miscreants are engaged in circulating fake news.

IIT Dharwad student Aman Singal and his friends then decided to develop an applications that differentiates real from fake.

Lauding the app as a "wonderful innovation", Union Minister for Education Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank tweeted, "Students from IIT Dharwad have designed a mobile app that detects fake news. The app will be launched in two months and will help curtail the spread of wrong information."

> **Students from IIT Dharwad have designed a mobile app that detects fake news. The app will be launched in two months and will help curtail the spread of wrong information**
>
> Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal, Union Minister

In its statement, IIT Dharwad said that even though the students have been away due to the coronavirus pandemic since March 2020, "it is heartening to see that a team of our students continued their work on developing a fake news alert application."

"The application is under development and the final product will be formally launched in the days to come. We congratulate the team on taking up the constructive work and are committed to supporting all research and development, and innovation attempts," it added.

Had attended meeting at CM's residence: Swapna

Kochi: Swapna Suresh, a key accused in the case relating to smuggling of gold through the diplomatic channel, has revealed that she had attended a meeting held at the chief minister's official residence in Thiruvananthapuram, according to the statement given by her to the Enforcement Directorate (ED). She had made the disclosure before ED investigators on August 7, 2020. "In 2017, during a private meeting between the UAE Consul General in Thiruvananthapuram and the chief minister at the latter's official residence, Pinarayi Vijayan had stated unofficially that Sivasankar will be the point of contact for all official matters concerning the UAE Consulate and thus our relationship grew," she told the ED officials.

'CJI can form panel to look into allegations'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

SOME other judges felt that the CJI can even decide to set a up a committee to look into the allegations. "In some cases, the CJI can formulate a committee of sitting judges, too, to probe the allegations," another former SC judge explained, adding that since Justice Ramana is next in line to become the CJI, the allegations against him cannot be ignored.

These judges said in the event of the CJI constituting a panel, he may have to divest Justice Ramana of some of his responsibilities, such as dropping him from the SC collegium. Justice Ramana has been a collegium member for some years now.

A senior Supreme Court lawyer said irrespective of the merit of the complaint, "the public has a right to know about the collective response of the Supreme Court to it."

Kerala to welcome domestic tourists from today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ T'Puram

A boy cycles near Akkulam Lake, a popular tourist spot in Thiruvananthapuram, while his mother keeps an eye on him, on Sunday | BP DEEPU

AFTER remaining shut for more than six months, the tourist destinations in the state will start welcoming people by enforcing Covid-19 norms strictly from Monday, bringing the much-needed relief to the cash-strapped economy of the state.

The hill, adventure, backwater and ayurveda tourist destinations will be reopened for domestic tourists from Monday, while the beach destinations will remain closed. They will be opened only on November 1 as it is difficult to enforce restrictions at beaches.

"The state has decided to reopen its tourist destinations in a phased manner in the wake of the crisis being faced by various stakeholders dependent on tourism," said Tourism Minister Kadakampally Surendran. "The Unlock 4.0 guidelines of the Centre has allowed the reopening of the tourism sector by strictly adhering to safety precautions. Taking note of this, the state has decided to reopen the tourism sector and this would be big relief for the ailing sector," he said.

Kerala has already relaxed the restrictions for people coming from other states, saying that they need not undergo quarantine for seven-day trips. Similarly, domestic tourists need not undergo quarantine for trips up to seven days. For those who wish to spend more than seven days need to carry a Covid-negative certificate or undergo a Covid test in Kerala at their own expense. Otherwise, they will have to undergo seven-day quarantine in the state. Further, all domestic tourists will have to register on www.covid19jagratha.kerala.nic.in and strictly follow Covid-19 protocols.

Tourists will have to wear masks, maintain physical distancing of two metres, and using sanitisers during their visit. Those showing any symptom of SARS-CoV-2 infection should avoid travelling to the state.

The state government has also made public the guidelines to be followed while touring the state.

Teacher on Covid duty succumbs to virus

Kasaragod: Primary school teacher Padmanabha M (47), who was on Covid duty, died in a First-Line Treatment Centre on Saturday night. Padmanabha, a teacher at Government High School at Soorambail in Puthige panchayat, was suffering from breathlessness and severe diarrhoea and he repeatedly requested the medical and health officials to shift him to a hospital but they dismissed it as a routine symptom of Covid-19. **ENS**

Woman gives birth to twins, dies of Covid

Kochi: Rajalakshmi, a young mother of newborn twins, died of Covid at a private hospital here on Sunday. The 28-year-old developed symptoms at a late stage of her pregnancy and tested positive for Covid on September 14. Just four days later, she went through a premature delivery, giving birth to twins. When one of the twins got infected, as doctors struggled to treat her baby, Rajalakshmi's condition steadily worsened before she passed on. **ENS**

BACK WHERE THEY BELONG

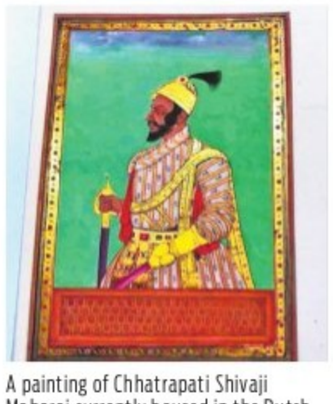
TS citizens want the Dutch to return stolen artefacts

AIHIK SUR @Hyderabad

WITH museums from Netherlands promising to return over 1 lakh artefacts that were looted from Sri Lanka and Indonesia, there is a growing demand from those in Hyderabad that the Dutch should also return a number of paintings taken from the erstwhile Golconda kingdom that are housed in the famous Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

These miniature paintings date back to the 17th century when the Dutch first touched the shores of the sub-continent. They were made in Golconda by miniaturists for Europeans, who were stationed there because of the textile trade, said the website of the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. In the museum, they are part of a set called the Witsen Album which comprises 49 such miniature paintings of rulers su ch as Akbar, Shah Jahan and Shivaji, Raja Man Singh and others.

The book *Notes on a Collection of Historical Portraits from Golconda* by Dr Hermann Goetz sheds some light on when this was taken to the Netherlands. "The above dates make it probable that they were brought from Golconda by the Dutch ambassador Laurens Pit in the summer of 1686..." Albums such as these were commissioned by Europeans to get a general idea of India.



A painting of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj currently housed in the Dutch museum | EXPRESS

The recent repatriation debate sparked off after Rijksmuseum and Tropenmuseum in Amsterdam backed a colonial repatriation committee report that over 1 lakh looted artefacts will be returned to the two South East Asian countries. Heritage activist Mohammed Safiullah said, "This can definitely be taken up in a larger way. We can also demand for the same."

However, Safiullah pointed out that these paintings were not stolen, and maybe that the paintings would be safer in European museums which have better facilities than our Indian counterparts. Congress MP Shashi Tharoor recently tweeted in this regard and said, "Congratulations to the Netherlands for deciding to return looted colonial artefacts... Will Britain, whose museums are all chor bazaars ever acquire the moral courage to do likewise?"

Decision on reopening schools only after Oct 30

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"HOWEVER, online revision will be available with a new timetable for all subjects during the holidays with assessment," Kumar added.

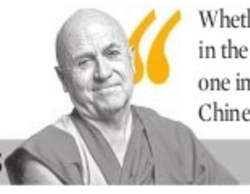
"KAMS advises member schools that online and offline support system on www.kamstv.com shall be stopped for Nursery and 8-10 Standards which are telecast," he said.

This U-turn by the State Government comes just 10 days after Primary and Secondary Education Minister Suresh Kumar announced the cancellation of the mid-term holidays (Dasara holidays).

The government was supposed to announce its decision on reopening schools after October 15, which is now effectively put off until after the holidays.

Private schools that have been conducting online classes were waiting for the government to let them start offline sessions with students for clearing doubts and had made preparations to begin classes from September 21 itself.

EDITORIAL



"Whether executed or succumbing to torture and famine in the camps and prisons, more than a million Tibetan—one in five of the population—died following the Chinese invasion. Enormous mass graves were filled up

Matthieu Ricard

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

DESPITE U.S. NAYSAYING, NO ALTERNATIVE TO TALKS WITH CHINA

American National Security Advisor Robert O'Brien's headline-grabbing statement that the time has come to realise that dialogues and agreements will not change China's aggression may have resonated with a section of the Indian polity. But the remarks ought to be seen from the prism of the November 3 US presidential election where Donald Trump is trailing by a wide margin. O'Brien criticised the territorial aggression by China along the LAC in Ladakh and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo berated Beijing for amassing 60,000 troops on India's northern border. Both statements were meant to bolster Trump's macho image for a second shot at office. The US commerce department's recent hike in levies on dumping of aluminium sheets from 18 countries, including India, too, falls in the poll posturing category. Add to that Trump's personal physician certifying that the president can resume normal work barely 10 days after contracting the coronavirus, which militates against globally accepted treatment and quarantine protocols, and the pre-poll circus is as clear as daylight.

India is justifiably angry over China's land grab in Ladakh, but bilateral talks at the military and diplomatic levels demanding restoration of status quo ante have continued parallelly In the last Corps Commander-level talks, both sides could not even agree on the agenda. While India wanted all incursions on the talks table, China only wanted to discuss the situation on the south bank of the Pangong lake, where India has a commanding presence in the heights.

India, however, coaxed China into agreeing to a joint statement, which committed both sides to freeze army and armaments build-up along the border. While O'Brien's observation on China's scant respect for agreements is indisputable, as it failed to honour commitments on the LAC de-escalation in the past, surely there can be no alternative to dialogue. For, the Ladakh incursions cannot be resolved by force and the dragon rarely yields. Indian troops have shown great tact and tenacity along the LAC by pushing China to the back foot after the bloody Galwan fight. Bad Himalayan weather in a few weeks is going to test both sides further. As another round of military-level talks open today, pragmatism will continue to be the watchword.

COVID MAKES MEDICAL WASTE PROBLEM WORSE

Few lessons have been learnt from our experience with the pandemic. The continued dangerous and unscientific disposal of biomedical waste is a case in point. At a time when hospital-acquired infections are at an all-time high and extremely high standards of hygiene and sanitation are required to keep Covid-19 at bay, reckless disposal of medical waste by contractors across the country is a reason for alarm. The failure of authorities to deploy an efficient strategy to combat this menace is also a matter of concern. Union Minister Babul Supriyo recently informed Lok Sabha that in the last two years, 126 public complaints were received about illegal medical waste disposal from across the country. While the minister said that action was taken in many of these cases, experts point out that reporting of illegal disposal itself is poor. The situation has just become worse with the onset of the pandemic.

Since April, India has been manufacturing an average of 4.5 lakh PPE suits every day, the Centre said. While these suits have helped contain the spread of the pandemic in a big way, they are now posing an immense risk to the ecosystem. Made primarily out of single-use plastic, the necessity for these suits has reversed all the ground gained by banning such plastic products in parts of the country. While most hospitals and authorities have taken extreme caution to ensure that Covid-related medical waste is scientifically disposed, the flip side is that the disposal of non-Covid medical waste now gets ignored. The country does not have adequate facilities to treat medical waste and the burden has increased dramatically due to the pandemic.

In short, Covid-19 has exacerbated plastic pollution across the globe and the lack of adequate infrastructure to deal with it is resulting in a medical waste-induced public health crisis in India. It is high time that policymakers focus on the fag end of the Covid chain—the waste management requirements. New infrastructure, trained manpower and sustainable solutions are needed to avoid a crisis that could be bigger than the pandemic.

India's pushback has to simultaneously address multiple fronts and domains with a clear aim in view. Its responses must neutralise and not exacerbate

HOW NEW DELHI MUST COUNTER BEIJING'S HYBRID WAR STRATEGY

LT GEN SYED ATA HASNAIN (RETD)

Former Commander, Srinagar-based 15 Corps. Now Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir

AMIT BANDRE

The Sino-Indian strategic equation at present is one of the most complex security challenges India has ever faced. In it, the importance of getting assessments right is the key to optimum response. A fortnight ago, I wrote in this newspaper that after progressive analysis, it seemed that the Chinese intent (the most difficult thing to assess) and strategy harped on limited military coercion combined with activities in other domains such as diplomatic, cyber, information and influence to keep India under pressure; force levels did not portray a war-fighting intent, more a deception towards it. The entire strategy appeared to aim at diluting India's strategic confidence, preventing it from playing its legitimate regional and international role in the context of the Indo-Pacific and use potential success in this to message other key anti-China detractors. So how does India break free of this hybrid war situation and counter China's aim and intent?

India's policy has all along ensured that it worked towards mutuality of interests with China; keeping borders stable, economic cooperation and trade, and treading a careful diplomatic path so as not to irk it. It has also shunned targeted partnerships aimed at China, stepping back from sensitive issues such as Tibet, Taiwan or Uyghurs and not responded strongly enough even on physical Chinese transgressions. India therefore has to first make up its mind whether it wishes to treat China as a friend, competitor, rival or adversary. On this depends the concept of response. A single description from the above would go against the principle of pragmatism and the saying—'no permanent friends and no permanent enemies, only permanent interests'. Thus India has to work considering China to be part of all four descriptions. Assuming the Indian establishment accepts the assessment that India is being subjected to short- to mid-term hybrid war, its pushback has to simultaneously address multiple fronts and domains with a clear aim in view; its responses must 'neutralise and not exacerbate'. The terminal aim needs to consider the projection of military capability, which is clearly a priority. Pushover nations that cannot respond in the military domain will always stand to be hurt. India's military response thus far has been balanced. The partial mobilisation has of course played to China's intent to force Indian expenditure but the flip side is that such military focus to the northern border hasn't taken place in years and so is a blessing towards better preparedness. This time, India must not hesitate to spend and optimise through long-term investment. Rhetoric over two-front war needs to convert to actual capability; else, it is Pakistan's instigation that might lead us into such situations relatively unprepared. In the military domain, it's a difficult call between assuming a proactive or responsive stance. This is where risk assessment needs to be wargamed at the national level. The responsive stance should be bigger than what China ever expects but being proactive also needs to remain an option. Let China subtly realise that initiation may many times lie in its hands but the termination would always prove expensive to it in terms of terminal state and reputation. Also in the military domain, it's the maritime one that can no longer be ignored. In another decade, the PLA Navy would commence playing a more active role in the Indian Ocean beyond just the Western Arabian Sea. India has to play its assigned role in the Indo-Pacific in all future strategic partnerships such as the Quad and the Navy has to have far better capability to play to China's worst fears.

Half the game in counter hybrid war strategy is contingent upon credible communication even when the intent is deceptive. A fairly good beginning on the seriousness of intent has been made with the recent missile tests to include Nirbhaya, Shaurya and the extended range Brahmos. The Rafale jet has made a great splash and the arrival of more

The partial mobilisation has led to increased Indian expenditure, which was China's intent, but the flip side is that such military focus to the northern border hasn't taken place in years. So this will help in better preparedness

must continue finding media space, but with a non-rhetorical projection. Television channels should actually commence shows on Defence Atmanirbhar on prime time to convey the seriousness of resolve to China. There is an ongoing debate on the handling of the 'One China' issue, our relationship with Taiwan and the Tibet issue. The Chinese are extremely sensitive to these. They are also fully aware of the potential that India carries of raising these issues to a much higher pitch across the world. A taste of this without going overboard needs to be given to China. A friend on social media opined quite appropriately—"important for India to support Tibetan freedom and create the buffer zone between our borders and mainland. If CCP thinks it's their right to support separatists in North East and Myanmar, the Government of India needs to unwind itself from the One China policy with due recognition of Taiwan and Tibet as nations". It's the subtlety and not the brazenness of the messaging that is important.

China's fifth generation warfare effort includes information distortion, deception and deflection. However, unlike Deng Xiaoping who believed in hiding the strength, Xi Jinping as China's strongman and apparent President for life is impatient and unsubtle; this is a weakness that needs to be intently studied academically to determine opportunities and domains which can hurt China's interests without an over-the-top approach. What we need is an institutional approach to countering and then launching our own fifth generation campaign. This was always the need in J&K too against Pakistan and we never adopted it adequately; let us not be found languishing this time against the Chinese.

On the diplomatic front, a reasonable beginning appears to be under way with the Quad. Equally important are strong bilateral ties with Japan, the cyber cooperation part in particular, since to reach anywhere near Chinese cyber capability, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan would be our ideal partners. The Indo-US 2+2 in the middle of the pandemic and the willingness to sign the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) for geospatial cooperation is an important precursor to India acquiring armed drones such as the MQ-9B from the US. The willingness to be a part of the global pushback against China's unsubtle bullying must be adequately projected. The economic domain, about which much has been written, is an area where care has to be exercised; the limits of decoupling have to be recognised even as we exercise our right to choose our business partners.

Countering China's hybrid approach will need flexibility, proactiveness, deep monitoring and the ability to wade through complexity. At the end of the day, our concept must recall that neutralisation and not exacerbation remains the key to success.

(atahasnain@gmail.com)

THREE-CAPITAL SYSTEM FOR ANDHRA A GAME CHANGER

VIJAYASAI REDDY V

MP, YSRCP Parliamentary Party Leader and National General Secretary

Creating multiple capitals so as to ensure balanced regional development, decongestion of capital cities and equitable wealth distribution geographically is not a concept unknown to the world. It is time-tested. South Africa has Pretoria (administrative capital), Cape Town (legislative capital) and Bloemfontein (judicial capital), while Netherlands has The Hague and Amsterdam, to mention a few.

Before we go into the selection of the three capitals of Andhra Pradesh, a little has to be said about the state's three distinctive regions. North coastal Andhra, coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema have distinct cultures with different levels of development. Visakhapatnam, with a population of more than two million, has the advantage of being rich in infrastructure and is a natural choice for the executive capital, as it is cost-effective. Rayalaseema, with its four districts, has tremendous scope to emerge as an industrial hub. Rich in mineral wealth, well-connected to metropolises like Bengaluru—the Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor runs through Anantapur and Chittoor districts—and the tremendous potential it has for tourism and international investment are some of its advantages. Giving it a fillip by making its prominent city, Kurnool, the judicial capital will not only address the longstanding aspirations of the Rayalaseema people but also boost development in the area. As for Amaravathi, it is located on the southern banks of the Krishna river and has the advantage of being in the heart of the state's agrarian basin. Richly watered by the Krishna, Godavari and Penna, it is a natural growth hub. Placing the legislative capital here ensures that this region continues to prosper, contrary to the false propaganda being unleashed by the TDP.

The three-capital decentralisation system envisaged by the AP government is a revolutionary concept. A state cannot progress without the overall development of all the regions. Three capitals in different geographical locations of the state would mean development would be evenly distributed and there won't be a Maharashtra-type situation, wherein almost all the wealth and entrepreneurship is accumulated in its western coastal region, specifically Mumbai.

After the bifurcation, the residuary state of Andhra Pradesh faced significant loss in terms of its erstwhile capital, Hyderabad. The Hyderabad that we see today was developed over the decades by people from all over the Telugu-speaking regions. The state now needs a new capital and building one from scratch involves huge costs, time and effort. Therefore, the government has rightly decided to evenly distribute the investment.

Three capitals will ensure that there will be massive waves of development in education, entrepreneurship, health, transportation, communication and other areas in these places. Amaravati would definitely develop, but so would other cities. This decision does not mean its destruction, as is being falsely propagated by former chief minister Chandrababu Naidu.

It is unfortunate, though not unanticipated, that Chandrababu Naidu has been opposing the move. His development model had always been highly centralised. During his first term, he was so preoccupied with Hyderabad, or more specifically Cyberabad, that the neglect of other parts of the state earned him the moniker 'Chief Minister of Hyderabad'. This was one of the causes of his defeat in the subsequent elections. Even during his second term, he clung to the same mindset. He wanted to concentrate all resources in the proposed capital Amaravati. But the mandate of a state government and a CM is to govern and develop the entire state, not just a particular city.

A state cannot progress without the overall development of all its regions. Three capitals in different geographical locations of Andhra would mean development would be evenly distributed. Amaravati would definitely develop, but so would other cities and the surrounding areas

Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy's government has, on the other hand, focused on decentralisation of power and resources with a much deeper understanding and long-term goals. History tells us that generally, whenever a new state is carved out, the largest city is made the capital. We saw it happening in Uttarakhand with Dehradun being made the capital, or Jharkhand with Ranchi and Meghalaya with Shillong. Therefore, it can easily be deduced that Visakhapatnam, which is by far Andhra's largest and most modern urban agglomeration, is an ideal city to be the executive capital. Building that kind of infrastructure in Amaravati all over again would mean a heavy burden on the state exchequer and loss of valuable time.

The CM also acknowledges that money has been spent in Amaravati, albeit with no work comparable to that of the level of a capital. The feelings of the people of Amaravati have also been catered for; therefore, Amaravati will continue to be the legislative capital. Kurnool being the judicial capital will also fulfil the long-pending demand of the Rayalaseema region for a High Court there. Benches of the High Court will also crop up as per requirement.

This system of having a High Court in a different city than the Executive Capital is a successful one. Uttar Pradesh has its principal High Court in Allahabad while its capital is Lucknow. Chhattisgarh has it in Bilaspur while the capital is Raipur and Madhya Pradesh has it in Jabalpur, though its capital is Bhopal.

Having multiple capitals is good for big states like AP, allowing the government to keep its eyes open to regional aspirations and demands. Inclusive growth and eradication of regional disparity are very important for a government committed to the overall development of the state. Historically, there have been regional disparities in AP and it is not possible to correct this suddenly. However, if we continue to ignore it and not deal with it head-on, it may backfire. The AP government has taken this issue very seriously and the three-capital system is an important step towards it.

I would like to hail the efforts of CM Jagan Mohan Reddy for his vision. I am confident that this system will kickstart a process of rapid and inclusive growth in the state. I am also hopeful that this idea will also inspire others in the days to come. Everybody has a right to benefit from developmental efforts. The three-capital idea is a huge step in this direction.

(venumbaka.vr@sansad.nic.in)

MAILBAG WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Shocking obstructions

This is with reference to *Jagan takes Amaravathi land scam fight to SC* (Oct 11). The obstructions to the probe allegedly by top judicial authorities is shocking. The guilty deserve stringent punishment.

S Arjun Prasanna, Bengaluru

Judiciary's credibility

The future of our judiciary appears bleak. One can only hope that people of impeccable integrity are selected by the collegium to uphold the belief the common man has placed in the judiciary.

B C Unnikrishnan Nair, Kuthiathode

Tainted judges?

The existence of tainted judges was not a secret. But a chief minister writing to the CJI alleging favouritism and other judicial improprieties against top judges is unprecedented.

Hemanth Bhide, Mangaluru

Castration for sex crimes

The punishment is more to the family of the culprits as they are mostly the only earning members. (*Sex crimes: Maha to adopt Andhra law*, Oct 10). Castration can be considered. It can serve as deterrence.

Pranarupananda, Bhubaneswar

Dynasts everywhere

Dynasts are in every sphere of life in India. (*Chromosome club controls country*, Oct 11.) But they mostly don't even come close to their predecessors, though people willingly grin and bear their shortcomings.

Elizabeth Koshy, Pathanamthitta

US help to fight China?

The statements of top US officials accusing China of trying to take control of the LAC are serious. Mike Pompeo's assessment that India is in absolute need of US help to fight China should be considered.

N A Joseph, Ettumanoor

Ordeal of Dalit victims

The ordeal of rape victims continues even after the dark deed (*Dalit victims of atrocities face double trouble*, Oct 11). The accused, to escape the law, resort to intimidation. This must be dealt with.

Dr George Jacob, Kochi

Dangerous trend

This is with reference to *Peeved clerics could dent Trinamool's Muslim vote base* (Oct 11). It is a dangerous trend that more and more communal and casteist parties are entering the election fray.

Ravi Mannethu, Pullad

Rewriting history

A review and rewriting of school history textbooks is long-pending. *History is our legacy, can't allow politicians to fritter it away* (Oct 10) tell us why it must be done soon at the national level.

Hari Kalyanasundaram Ayyar, email

Caste discrimination in TN

An elected panchayat woman head in TN was made to sit on the floor by members of a most backward caste community during meetings only because she is a Dalit. Severe punishment is needed.

S Nallasivan, Tirunelveli

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Narendra Modi @narendramodi
People now know those who have looted the country. That is why they are indulging in opposition, bad-mouthing (govt), and using foul language

Chirag Paswan @iChiragPaswan
My heartfelt gratitude for PM's help in organising the last rites for father. As a son I am going through a difficult phase but am inspired by your courage

Sukhbir Singh Badal @officeofssbadal
Till now, no way has been found by the Centre to resolve this issue (farm laws). I request the PM to call a meeting of all farmers' bodies himself

LAC: Seventh round of military talks today

Officials aren't expecting any breakthrough; India to stress on simultaneous disengagement at all stand-off points

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE seventh round of talks between the Corps Commanders of India and China over de-escalation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh is scheduled for Monday.

Though senior officials are not expecting any breakthrough, the meeting is significant as it is the first high-level meeting after China asserted on September 29 that its claim on the LAC was based on the definition agreed to in November 1959. India had immediately rejected the claim calling it a unilaterally defined boundary which India never accepted.

The talks are slated to begin at 12 noon in Chushul on the Indian side of the LAC. India will press for early and complete disengagement of troops by China from all the friction points, sources said. "The meeting is to take place tomorrow but we cannot expect any breakthrough as far as the outcome is concerned," said a senior official.

The China Study Group, comprising Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat and the three service chiefs, on Friday finalised India's strategy for the talks.

Army vehicles move towards E-Ladakh amid prolonged India-China stand off | FILE

The previous Corps Commander meeting, held on September 21, failed to end the stalemate as China remained adamant on it stand that India should move back its forces from the south bank of Pangong Tso. India, however, made it clear that all the stand-off points, including Depsang, have to be discussed and the disengagement should be simultaneous at all locations.

Also, this meeting will be the last one for Lt-Gen Harinder Singh, the current Corps Commander of the Army's Leh-based XIV Corps. "Lt-Gen PGK Menon, who is designated to be the next Corps Commander, will also be part of the meeting on Monday," said the officer. Lt-Gen Singh, who has been leading the Indian side at the military-level talks, will assume charge as Commandant, IMC, in November.

Reopening lifts up air traffic, no. of flyers

KUMAR VIKRAM @ New Delhi

WITH the gradual re-opening of the economy, the number of air passengers has witnessed continuous growth. The number grew by nearly 43 per cent between June and August, while aircraft movement has recorded a growth of nearly 28 per cent.

However, there was still an average gap of nearly 76% in the movement of passengers and 64% gap in aircraft movements in August this year compared to the same month last year, domestic air traffic data from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and Airport Authority of India revealed.

Smaller cities like Patna, Lucknow, Kozhikode, Jaipur, Coimbatore etc. have seen larger growth in aircraft movements in last three months —from 1,148 to 1,676 in Patna, 111 to 202 in Kozhikode and from 860 to 1,288 in Lucknow between June and August.

While the government believes that domestic traffic is likely to reach pre-Covid level by the year-end, industry analysts say the recovery is only marginal.

Harsh Vardhan, aviation expert and former CEO of Vayudoot, said while the recovery is a good sign, it may take till end of 2022 for the aviation sector to return to last year's levels. "Almost 60-70% fleet is still on the ground. I don't see anything before 24 months when reasonable operations are stablised...There are restrictions. There is very limited international operation," he said. "You have to also realise that what you have lost in last 10 months has created a big hole... the problem of the airline industry is how to get over these crises."

Kinjal Shah, Vice President, ICRA, informed that the average number of passengers per flight in September this year was 98 against an average of 133 in September 2019. "It is expected that the domestic aviation industry operated at a passenger load factor of about 63% in the month as against 85.5% last year," he said.

Earlier this week, Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Puri said he expected the number of daily air passengers to rise to 2,00,000 by October-end, while pre-Covid figures of 3,00,000 passengers per day could be reached between Diwali and New Year.

Aviation secretary Pradeep Singh Kharola said, "We are now gearing up to face the challenge of welcoming more people in the airports."

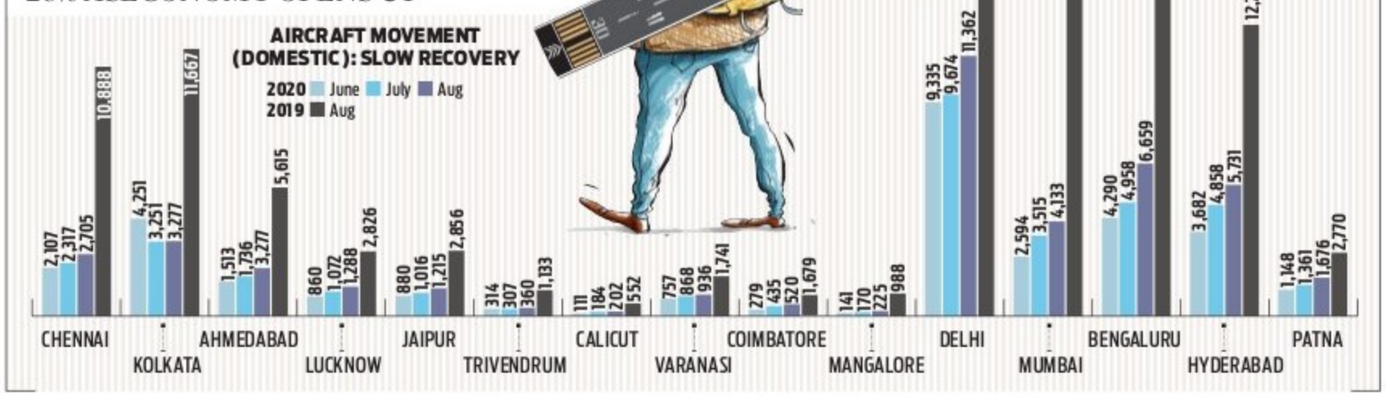
PASSENGER LOAD FACTOR (in %)

Airlines	June	July	Aug
Air India	56.5	45.5	58.6
Spicejet	68	70	76
Goair	57.9	50.5	61
Indigo	60.7	60.2	65.6
Air Asia	56.5	56.2	64.4

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

AIR PASSENGERS UP BY 43%, AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS UP BY 28% ASECONOMY OPENS UP

AIRCRAFT MOVEMENT (DOMESTIC): SLOW RECOVERY



PASSENGERS CARRIED (in lakhs)

2020	August	28.32
	July	21.7
	June	19.84
2019	August	117.93

Centre again invites Punjab farmers for talks on October 14

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

TWO days after farmer organisations in Punjab called for a blockade of national highways across the country for six hours on November 3, the Centre has once again invited them for talks on October 14. The protesting farmers had already rejected such an offer for talks slated on October 8.

Sanjay Agarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, shot off a letter to the farmer bodies on October 10 stating that the government was very serious about addressing their concerns regarding the new farm laws. He invited them for talks on October 14 at 11.30 am at the ministry.

A decision on whether to accept the invitation will be taken at a meeting in Jalandhar on October 13, the farmer leaders said. "Though the invite has come from the agriculture ministry, but this time it says that the Central government wants to have a dialogue," a senior farmer leader said.

The farmers' agitation has disrupted rail traffic and severely impacted coal supply for thermal power plants in Punjab. They have been holding a 'rail roko' agitation against the "anti-farmer" laws, with protesters squatting on railway tracks at various places in the state since September 24.

Farmers have expressed apprehension that new laws will destroy the MSP mechanism, end Agricultural Produce Market Committees.

Bengaluru may be worst-affected by Covid at present

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @ New delhi

IN a day, on October 8, Bengaluru registered a whopping 5,121 Covid-19 cases. And it was the third day in a row that the city had ringed in over 5,000 new cases.

The constantly surging rise of the infectious disease in the city is worrying for two reasons, say experts.

The country though is now only another nation, apart from the USA, where there are over 7 million confirmed cases while the number of deaths has reached 1,08,334.

The situation, however, seems to be panning out differently in cities. For example, while the case trajectory in Delhi, Pune and Thane seems to be slowing down, many cities such as Bengaluru, Mumbai and Kolkata continue to face the heat of infectious disease.

As of now, with 3,14,118 confirmed Covid cases, Pune tops the chart among cities but going by the trend for the last several weeks, Bengaluru — at the third position now — is set to topple the city for the not so coveted spot.

Given the trajectory of cases being recorded every day, Bengaluru may be the city worst-affected by Covid at present, not only in India but perhaps in the world. Over the last week, while Pune has reported about less than 2,000 fresh cases every day, the number of cases reported in Bengaluru every 24 hours stands at over 4,600.

The only saving grace for the city seems to be the comparative low death count till now which now stands at 3,320. But on an average the city has been witnessing 39 deaths every day over the past 7 days—not very far from average 47 deaths being reported in Mumbai daily.

Mumbai which has been seeing a surge of cases since April-May is also not showing a clear sign of substantial slowdown and the populous city, which has 2,27, 276 confirmed cases so far, is registering close to 2,800 new cases every day even now.

It is for this reason that experts point that talk of a national level peak may be "meaningless."

"High-burden cities like Pune, Delhi and Thane have seen a steady decline in cases but larger cities like Bengaluru, Mumbai & Kolkota along with several smaller cities are still seeing new daily highs," said health economist Dr Rijo M John. "This indicates that the spread of coronavirus is still at an early stage in several places across the country." Some others, on the other hand, linked the progression of the disease to herd immunity in cities.

> **Many cities are now showing gradual stabilization with gradual decline. Also, serosurveys in many cities have shown presence of antibody levels higher than cities in most countries**
>
> Dr Amitabh Banerjee, Epidemiologist

"Many cities are now showing gradual stabilization with gradual decline. Also, serosurveys in many cities have shown presence of antibody levels higher than cities in most other countries," said epidemiologist Dr Amitabh Banerjee. "Perhaps India may attain herd immunity earlier than most countries, due to the advantage of their younger and leaner population."

He also cautioned that cities may perhaps experience a spike in cases when normal activities resume. "As people will tend to be younger we may have a rising number of cases but fewer deaths," he said.

City	Total cases	Active cases	Deaths	New daily cases	Daily deaths*
Pune	3,14,118	46,583	6,218	1,927	41
Delhi	3,06,559	22,107	5,740	2,662	38
Bengaluru	2,76,934	64,911	3,320	4,462	39
Mumbai	2,27,276	25,352	9,391	2,116	47
Chennai	1,80,751	13,580	3,393	1,333	19
Kolkata	63,686	6,513	1,861	748	15
Ahmadabad	38,737	3,542	1,845	186	3

Source: Covid19India.Org *Past week

GREEN MOVE

CM Thackeray shifts metro car shed from Aarey land

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Sunday announced the relocation of Aarey metro car shed and said the project will now come up at Kanjurmarg.

In a webcast, Thackeray said the project will be shifted to a government land in Kanjurmarg and no cost will be incurred for the purpose. "The land will be available at zero rate," he said.

He said the building which has come up in Aarey forest will be utilised for some other public purpose. "About ₹100 crore expenditure was incurred for the purpose and it won't go waste," he said.

"Biodiversity in Aarey needs to be to conserved and protected. Nowhere is there an 800-acre jungle in an urban set up. Mumbai has a natural forest cover," he said. Cases last year against citizens and environmentalists who protested against the Aarey project and felling of trees in that area have been withdrawn, he said.

Compensation to sexual crimes victims: Only 36% grants under Nirbhaya Fund utilised

KANU SARDA @ New Delhi

DAYS after the alleged gangrape and murder of a Dalit girl in Hathras, the spotlight is back on the way the victims and their families are treated.

Though governments generally announce compensation, in most cases accessing it is not easy, which is one reason why much of the awarded sum is yet to be disbursed, data analysis shows.

In 2016, a Central Victim Compensation Fund within the Nirbhaya fund created by the Union government, released a grant to all states, of which just 36% were used, according to a parliamentary panel report submitted last year.

Lack of awareness among survivors is a primary reason for not getting compensation. There have been cases where the police fail to forward cases to the State Legal Services Authority, which is the sanctioning body. The biggest compensation bottleneck is the divisional commissioner, who is responsible for disbursing funds but files get stuck for some reason at that level.

Each state has its own scheme for compensating victims of sxual violence and the payout varies.

The Ministry of Home Affairs released ₹1,656 crore in the last five years to states and Union Territories under the Nirbhaya Fund, but received utilisation certificates for less than 9% of the sum. This means only ₹146.98 crore of the total amount was utilised. Maharashtra, Manipur, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Tripura and Daman & Diu did not spent even a rupee from the Nirbhaya Fund allocated by MHA

PAPER STRIP-BASED COVID TEST SOON: VARDHAN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

UNION health minister Harsh Vardhan on Sunday announced that a paper strip test for Covid-19, named Feluda, will be commercially launched within next few weeks. "Based on tests in over 2,000 patients during the trials at the Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology and on testing in private labs, the test showed 96% sensitivity and 98% specificity," said the minister.

"While I cannot put an exact date on the availability, we should expect this test within the next few weeks," he added. Named after Satyajit Ray's popular detective, Feluda, priced at ₹500, can deliver a result in 45 minutes.

He also warned about the possibility of increased virus transmission during the Winters. Also cautioning people to stay away from large congregations during the upcoming festival season, he said, "The Bhagwad Gita condones war for the warrior class. So, there is no need to congregate in large numbers to prove your faith or your religion."

Congress leadership keen on 'new role' for Sidhu, CM Amarinder not on board

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE central leadership of Congress may be considering a 'new' role for former Punjab local bodies minister **Navjot Singh Sidhu**. However, it is proving to be a Herculean task for party general secretary in-charge Harish Rawat because of Sidhu's own confrontational approach and Chief Minister **Captain Amarinder Singh**'s refusal to rehabilitate him in his cabinet with a better profile than he earlier held.

Amarinder has categorically said that Sidhu can only be re-adjusted in the cabinet as power minister, the portfolio he earlier held, since all other ministers are well-performing and can't be replaced. He has also staunchly opposed the idea of appointing Sidhu as Punjab Congress president, saying he joined the party only three years back.

Navjot Singh Sidhu, on his part, seems to have ruined his chances by his aggressive behaviour at a tractor rally in Moga in the presence of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. At the rally, Sidhu shared the stage with the CM for the first time since the 2019 parliamentary polls and took potshots at his own party's government and former cabinet colleagues.

Sidhu has been in virtual hibernation ever since his resignation from Amarinder's cabinet in June last year. His name is also missing from the star campaigners' list for Bihar assembly elections while Amarinder has found a mention.

However, Rawat is keen on bringing Navjot Singh Sidhu back to the fold. "Sidhu has the power to shine and no one can stop him. But Congress is a big party; it takes time. One should be patient to achieve something," he said.

On the CM's opposition to a bigger role for Sidhu, he said exceptions could be made in case of extraordinary people. The party high command will decide what role can be given to Sidhu and everyone will have to abide by it, Harish Rawat added.

BJP looks to expand base, eyes BSP vote bank

MANISH ANAND @ New Delhi

WITH its oldest ally, the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), having parted ways, the Bhatiya Janata Party (BJP) is bracing to face the political battle in Punjab on its own and is now eying BSP vote bank to strengthen its base in the state.

The BJP is apparently making no efforts to persuade the SAD to return to the NDA fold. "For the BJP, Punjab presents a Maharashtra-like opportunity to test the political waters on its own strength. The BJP emerged as the single largest party in Maharashtra in 2014, when it contested the assembly elections without alliance with Shiv Sena. The BJP will be preparing in Punjab with the clarity that the state politics is set for a multi-polar contest in the next assembly elections in 2022," said a senior party functionary.

"With the Congress, the SAD and the AAP holding on to three poles in state politics, the BJP has an opportunity to clutch the fourth segment and consolidate roughly 38 per cent of Hindu vote base. The BSP has for the past few elections commanded a strong base in the state, but the party is losing grip over the constituency, largely consisting of the Dalits. That will be the target for the BJP in the next two years to work on and gain acceptance," added the BJP leader.

NEW ENTRY

Shayara Bano, the Uttarakhand woman who has emerged as a prominent face of the battle against triple talaq, joined BJP in Dehradun on Saturday. Bano had challenged the triple talaq system in Supreme Court

6.8K PEOPLE GET PROPERTY CARDS IN UTTARAKHAND

Ahmedabad	37	25	Mumbai	34	27
Bhopal	34	18	Panaji	32	25
Jaipur	36	22	Patna	32	24
Amritsar	35	19	Lucknow	36	23
Chennai	32	27	Port Blair	29	24
Kolkata	35	27	Imphal	32	20
Srinagar	26	05	Chandigarh	34	20

Bihar needs leadership of Modi and Nitish: Nadda

BJP national president launches NDA's election campaign with first physical rally in Gaya, lauds alliance's development works in 15 years

BJP national president JP Nadda with party leaders and NDA candidates during the first election rally at Gandhi Maidan in Gaya on Sunday | PTI

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @Patna

BIHAR needs the leadership of both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, BJP president Jagat Prakash Nadda said on Sunday. He was addressing a rally in Gaya which marked the beginning of NDA's election campaign in the state. The first physical election rally since the coronavirus breakout was attended by about 7000 people.

Nadda called upon the people of Bihar to vote for the NDA candidates to strengthen the hands of PM Modi.

"Leadership of India is secured in the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and it is important that the leadership of Bihar is secured with Nitish Kumar," he said.

"When you are voting, don't fail to recall the difference between the Bihar of Lalu Prasad's time and the Bihar under Nitish Kumar-led NDA", Nadda said adding that the NDA works for development with justice.

"What was happening during Lalu's rule? Crimes, corruption, carnages, kidnapping and total anarchy coupled with commotion and collapsed administration system. Now, Bihar is on the path of progress with good governance, better law and order, road, electricity and safety," he claimed.

Lauding the performances of the NDA government in the last 15 years, Nadda said that PM Modi has changed the culture of politics from when it used to be based on mere 'promises' and 'caste-lines' to 'developments for all with all".

"Nitish Kumar-led NDA government has set a benchmark of development in Bihar taking care of everyone even during the pandemic," he asserted.

Nadda targeted the opposition RJD and said that those who rose to power drawing upon the legacy of Jayaprakash Narayan have ended up joining hands with the very Congress party which the legendary socialist leader dislodged from power.

Nadda was sharing the stage with Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi, BJP state president Sanjay Jaiswal and JD-U leader RCP Singh and HAM leader Jitan Ram Manjhi.

In Gaya, NDA had put up 10 candidates including 4 by BJP and 3 by JD-U and 3 by HAM.

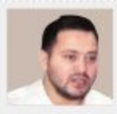
Nitish to campaign from Monday via virtual rallies

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar will hit the campaign trail in virtual mode from Monday when he will address people of several assembly segments. JD-U general secretary Sanjay Kumar Jha said he will be addressing people in 35 constituencies in next two days.

BATTLELINES DRAWN

ALLIANCES & PARTIES

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE: Janata Dal-U, BJP, Hindustani Awam Morcha, Vikassheel Insaan Party
LEADER: **Nitish Kumar (JD-U)**



GRAND ALLIANCE: Rashtriya Janata Dal, Congress, CPI-ML, CPM, CPI
LEADER: **Tejashwi Yadav(RJD)**

PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE: Jan Adhikar Party, Azad Samaj Party (Chandrasekhar Azad), Social Democratic Party, Bahujan Mukti Party
LEADER: **Pappu Yadav (JAP)**

UNITED DEMOCRATIC SECULAR PARTY: Rashtriya Lok Samta Party, All India Majlis-e-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen, BSP, Samajwadi Democratic Party, Janwadi Party (Socialist)
LEADER: **Upendra Kushwaha (RLSP)**

UNITED DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE: Bharatiya Sablog Party, Janata Dal Rashtrabadi, Banchit Samaj Party, Janata Party, LJP (Secular)
LEADER: **Yashwant Sinha**

LOK JANSHAKTI PARTY
LEADER: **Chirag Paswan**

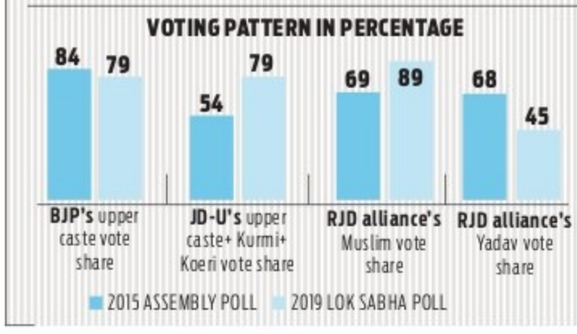
MAJOR PARTIES CONTESTING PHASE I & CASTE BREAKUP

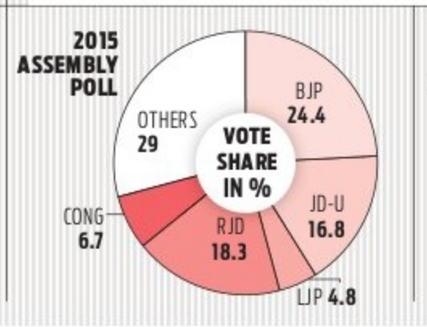
- **LJP: 42** (SC-OBC-EBC 23, UPPER CASTE 18, MUSLIM 1)
- **RLSP: 42** (SC-OBC-EBC 35, UPPER CASTE 7)
- **RJD: 42** (SC-OBC-EBC 36, UPPER CASTE 4, MUSLIM 2)
- **JD-U: 35** (SC-OBC-EBC 26, UPPER CASTE 8, MUSLIM 1)
- **BJP: 27** (UPPER CASTE 16, SC-OBC-EBC 9)
- **CONG: 21** (UPPER CASTE 14, SC-OBC-EBC 6, MUSLIM 1)

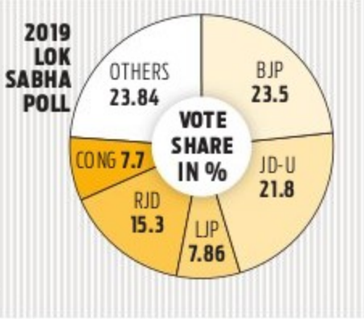
DISTRICTS

Bhagalpur ● Banka ● Munger ● Lakhisarai ● Sheikhpura ● Jamui ● Jehanabad ● Gaya ● Patna ● Bhojpur ● Arwal ● Nalanda ● Aurangabad ● Kaimur ● Buxar ● Rohtas

VOTING PATTERN IN PERCENTAGE







(SOURCE: ELECTION COMMISSION, CENSUS 2011, CSDS DATA UNIT)

RJD cites 'popularity' for fielding candidates with criminal cases

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @Patna

ANANT Kumar Singh, the sitting independent MLA from Mokama, is named in 38 criminal cases including cases of economic offences and atrocities against SC/ST. He is currently lodged in Patna's Beur jail in connection with a case related to the recovery of an AK-47 rifle and ammunition from his house. Despite the long list of criminal cases against him, Singh has been given a ticket by the Rashtriya Janata Dal for the upcoming assembly elections.

Similarly, RJD has nominated Ajay Yadav, sitting MLA from Atarai, who is named in 14 criminal cases in Gaya district.

Among the 42 candidates declared by the RJD so far, over 20 have criminal charges pending against them. The party has justified fielding such candidates citing their 'popularity' and 'probability of winning' as reasons. The party had said these candidates are more politically active in their areas and have been working for the people's welfare. That's why their probability of winning is more, the party reasoned.

In February this year, the Supreme Court had asked political parties to upload details of criminal cases against candidates on their websites, newspapers and social media and give reasons for fielding them.

Mukesh Kumar Raushan, Munna Yadav, Prahalad Yadav and Bharat Bind, contesting from Mahua, Minapur, Suryagarha and Bhabhua seats, respectively, also have multiple cases against them but have been given RJD ticket due to the high chances of winning. The list also includes others against whom cases have been registered for assault, possession of weapons and other offences.

In 2015, 136 of the total 243 elected legislators had pending criminal cases. RJD led the list with 45 out of 80 MLAs facing criminal cases followed by JD-U (34 out of 69), BJP (34 out of 54) and Congress (14 out of 15), as per a report by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and Bihar Election Watch.

Cong forms poll panel

Congress named Randeep Surjewala as chairman of the election management and coordination committee for Bihar polls. The panel includes leaders like Meira Kumar, Tariq Anwar, Shatrughan Sinha, Kirti Azad, Shakeel Ahmed and Sanjay Nirupam while Mohan Praskash is the convenor

Chirag thanks PM, snubs CM

LJP leader Chirag Paswan on Sunday thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the arrangements made for the state funeral of his father Ram Vilas Paswan saying that the PM's support has given him confidence and courage. However, he forgot to thank Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar

BJP COMES OUT WITH 2ND LIST, NO SURPRISES

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE BJP on Sunday released the second list of 46 candidates for the Bihar Assembly elections. The party repeated most of the sitting MLAs of the party while also trying to strike a caste balance. The BJP has declared 75 candidates so far. It is contesting on 110 seats.

Nand Kishore Yadav, Sanjeev Chourasia, Nitin Naveen, Mithilesh Tiwari, Nitish Mishra are among of the sitting MLAs named in the list. The party has has fielded journalist-turned-politician Nikhil Anand from the Maner constituency. One of the new faces in the list is Rohit Pandey from Bhagalpur constituency. Union minister Ashwani Choube had been staking claims for his son Arijit Shashwat from the same seat.

The BJP also released the list of its star campaigners, which included Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, UP CM Yogi Adityanath.

It also released the list of candidates for 16 candidates for assembly bypolls in Odisha, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Manipur and Chhatishgarh.

TRP SCAM

Shiv Sena asks for probe in Republic TV's funding source

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE Shiv Sena has asked for a probe based on the financial angle in the alleged TRP rigging by Republic TV.

"It's been established that money was given to certain households to keep watching a certain news channel. We need to investigate the source of funding. Who was funding and protecting this channel? The money trail needs to be investigated," Sanjay Raut, editor of party mouthpiece *Saamana*, said in his weekly column.

Raut also claimed that the investigation has revealed that about 80,000 fake social media accounts were created to run a narrative against the Mumbai police and Maharashtra government.

"Most of these social media accounts are from Japan, Indonesia and Turkestan, etc. The same accounts tarnished the image of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh earlier. Now they are targeting the Thackeray family and the government," he added.

Raut further said that money from overseas was used to tarnish the image of the state government in the Sushant Singh Rajput case.

"The world's largest political party – BJP – is involved here to fund the IT cell and plot the conspiracy with a movie actress. This was an international plot by the international political party."

He added that BJP has systematically developed the cyber army to attack the opponents. "BJP won the last two Lok Sabha elections with the help of the cyber army. It was used against the Opposition. Now, they are using it against the police, army and administration," he said.

EXPRESS READ

Scribe ends indefinite fast after 9 days

RAIPUR: Senior journalist Kamal Shukla who was assaulted by the Congress workers and had later sat on a fast-unto-death for last nine days, ended his agitation on Sunday evening following the intervention of the Governor and the journalist fraternity. Shukla, 53, a resident of Kanker district was targeted while he had gone to cover an attack on a young journalist on September 26

'Guardian angel' for 48 mothers

Guwahati: Hongnao Konyak is a "guardian angel" for 48 mothers and scores of patients of Mon, a remote district in Nagaland. The 39-year-old social worker, went beyond being a Good Samaritan in these difficult times of the pandemic. Hongnao used his car and turned it into an ambulance. He ferried 48 pregnant women to the district hospital in Mon, which shares a border with Myanmar, saving not just their lives but also that of their babies. He extended the hservice to over 100 other patients also. Hongnao says he just wanted to save lives.

Under SIT scanner, Jabalpur doc says will keep fighting for Hathras victim's family

EXPRESS NEWS SEVICE @Bhopal

DR Rajkumari Bansal, who three-day stay with the family of Hathras gang-rape and murder victim, has come under scanner, is determined to visit them again and fight for them whenever they need her. Bansal, who is faculty member of the Jabalpur Medical College, is reportedly being probed by the Uttar Pradesh SIT and may also face action by her college.

"I'm India's daughter and have struck an inseparable bond with the victim family in Hathras. Whenever they'll need me, I'll go back to them again and fight for them. The system needs to know that the family in Hathras isn't alone, they'll always have me fighting for them," Bansal told this newspaper.

Working in the Pharmacology Department of Netaji Subhash Chandra Medical College in Jabalpur, Bansal stayed with the family from October 4-6, allegedly posing as the girl's sister-in-law.

"I went there out of humanity, after being shocked that how can the system be so powerful that the victim girl's body can be cremated by the police at 2.30 am, without the consent of the family. No family should be treated as garbage," she said.

"I never told any journalist that I was the girl's bhabhi or any other relative," she said.

Cousins adamant on marriage poisoned by family in Chhattisgarh, bodies burnt

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

IN a shocking incident, cousins who fell in love and wanted to get married were poisoned by their family members and burnt in Bhilai, about 40 km west of Chhattisgarh's capital Raipur on Sunday.

The families of the youngsters were reportedly against the marriage plan as the father of the girl and the boy were brothers.

"They were first poisoned to death by the girls' brother Charan Koppal and uncle K Ramu. Later, they were trying to dispose off the bodies by setting them on fire on the bank of Shivnath river. The police have recovered their burnt bodies," said Prashant Thakur, SP Durg.

"Following interrogation, both the accused have confessed to their crime. A case has been registered under various sections of the IPC," said Thakur.w

The families strongly opposed to the relation citing that such a marriage cannot be socially solemnised and will hurt their status too, the officer added.

The couple had fled to Chennai a few days ago. They were brought to Bhilai on October 7 following a police complaint lodged by their families. With both remaining adamant to marry against their parents' wishes, Charan and Ramu poisoned them to deaths.

Bhojpuri music star Kalpana joins AGP

Singer Kalpana Patowary has joined BJP ally Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) which is a constituent of Assam's three-party coalition government. Soon after she had joined the party, it appointed her as its brand ambassador. The singer said that she felt people should join politics for the state's overall development. She observed that the women in Assam lagged way behind in politics compared to their counterparts in other states. AGP president Atul Bora expressed confidence that the party would gain from Kalpana's entry. Kalpana, who is from Assam, has belted out songs in 30 languages but she's most famous for Bhojpuri songs.

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR
Our correspondent in Guwahati
prasantamazumdar@newindianexpress.com

GUWAHATI DIARY

Sahara: A hyper-local IIT startup tech

Sahara, a hyper-local tech startup of the students of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati, has developed a mobile app that lets offline business owners create synergy with customers and potential business partners on a global platform with the power of digitalisation. With the idea of a one-stop solution for everything that people require – from food to shelter – the project aims to provide services that stand up to international quality standards at fairly low costs. The features on this app will also guarantee accurate navigating experience, especially to travellers, in the form of local language translation service, security for travellers by assisting in establishing contact with respective traveller's embassy in case of emergency, emergency and SOS service especially for women, etc.

Guwahati airport gets facelift

The Guwahati International Airport is getting a facelift. The Airports Authority of India is constructing the new integrated terminal building at a cost of ₹1,232 crore. This is the biggest and busiest airport of the Northeast. It handles over six million passengers annually. The new terminal building will be able to handle around 10 million passengers annually. Equipped with 64 check-in counters, 20 self-check-in kiosks, six baggage carousels, an in-line baggage security screening system and ten aerobridges, the terminal will be an energy-efficient building, the AAI said in a statement. Icarus, the mythological figure, has inspired the design of the terminal building.

Congress to play 'Big Brother' in alliance

As a grand alliance of opposition parties is being worked out ahead of the Assam Assembly polls, the Congress has decided to play the big brother's role. Led by the Congress, the opposition parties are coming together to oust the ruling BJP. "Congress being the largest party, it will play the role of big brother in the grand alliance. Also, someone from the party will be projected as the chief ministerial candidate," state Congress chief Ripun Bora said. The proposed alliance between Congress and All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF) is expected to thwart the split of anti-BJP votes in the state.

2,071
new cases recorded in Nepal, taking the country's Covid-19 tally to 1,07,755

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	18	7	SNY	Los Angeles	31	18	SNY
Colombo	30	26	TDS	Melbourne	24	13	LC
Dhaka	34	25	LC	Moscow	15	9	LR
Dubai	37	25	SNY	New York	13	13	HR
Houston	33	21	LC	Singapore	32	26	TDS
Istanbul	24	17	LC	Toronto	16	11	LC
London	12	9	LR	Washington	19	15	LR

Trump pitches his 'immunity' as advantage over Biden

President declares himself free of Covid-19, though his doctor has not said he tested negative; he returns to full-fledged rallies today

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump on Sunday declared he was healthy enough to return to the campaign trail, a day after the White House doctor said he was no longer at risk of transmitting the coronavirus but did not say explicitly if Trump had tested negative for it.

Trump, who was poised Monday to host his first rally after his COVID-19 diagnosis, declared he was now "immune" from the virus, a claim that was impossible to prove and comes amid a series of outstanding questions about the president's health.

He pitched his supposed post-infected immunity as an advantage over his Democratic rival, Joe Biden. "Once you do recover, you're immune, so you don't have a president who has to hide in his basement, like his opponent," Trump said Sunday in a lengthy interview on *Fox News* Channel.

"It looks like I'm immune for, I don't know, maybe a long time, maybe a short time, it could be a lifetime, nobody really knows -- but I'm immune," Trump said. The president added that he now had a "protective glow."

In a memo released Saturday night by the White House, Navy Cmdr. Dr. Sean Conley said Trump met the CDC criteria for safely discontinuing isolation and that by "currently recognized standards" he was no longer considered a transmission risk. The memo did not declare Trump had tested negative for the virus.

But sensitive lab tests — like the PCR test cited in the doctor's statements — detect virus in swab samples taken from the nose and throat. Some medical experts had been skeptical that Trump could be declared free of the risk of transmitting the virus so early in the course of his illness. Just 10 days since an initial diagnosis of infection, there was no way to know for certain that someone was no longer contagious, they said.

US President Donald Trump takes his mask off before speaking from the South Portico of the White House during a gathering | AFP

> **You have a president who is immune... so now you have a president who doesn't have to hide in a basement like his opponent**
>
> Trump said in a jab at Joe Biden

The memo followed Trump's first public appearance since returning to the White House after being treated for the coronavirus at a military hospital. Hundreds of people gathered Saturday afternoon on the South Lawn for a Trump address on his support for law enforcement from a White House balcony.

Trump took off a mask moments after he emerged on the balcony to address the crowd on the lawn below, his first step back onto the public stage with just more than three weeks to go until Election Day. He flouted, once more, the safety recommendations of his own government days after acknowledging that he was on the brink of "bad things" from the virus and claiming that his bout with illness brought him a better understanding of it.

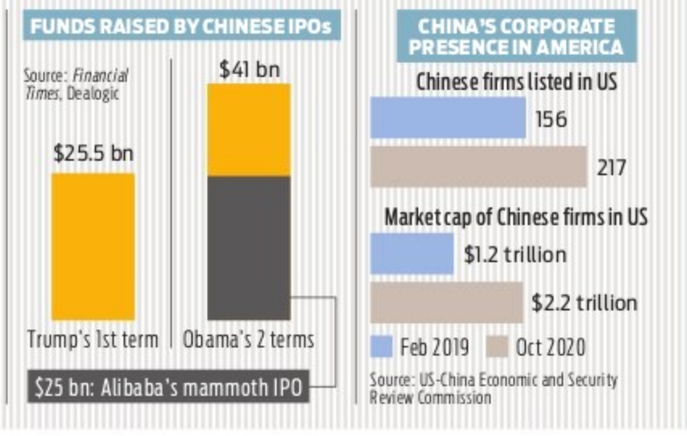
His return was a brief one. With bandages visible on his hands, likely from an intravenous injection, Trump spoke for 18 minutes, far less than his normal hour-plus rallies. He appeared healthy, if perhaps a little hoarse, as he delivered what was, for practical purposes, a short version of his campaign speech despite the White House setting. *Agencies*

China firms' US stock listings rising under Trump

Despite Trump's attempts to cut trade ties with China, the number of Chinese firms listing their stock in the US has grown faster under the Republican president's administration than under Obama's, says a new report

102 IPOs
by Chinese companies on the NYSE and Nasdaq during Trump's presidency, nearly equal to the 105 initial public offerings (IPOs) by Chinese firms under Obama's eight years, *Financial Times* said

More money raised
Chinese firms are raising more funds under Trump than under Obama ($250 mn vs $154 mn, on average), excluding the Alibaba IPO in 2014



Democratic Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi | AP

WH says new stimulus deal still possible

WASHINGTON

A new Covid-19 economic stimulus package proposed by the White House could still be passed despite opposition from Democrats and some Republicans, President Donald Trump's economic advisor said Sunday.

Asked if the proposed deal was dead, Larry Kudlow told CNN's "State of the Union," "No, I don't think it's dead at all... We're asking for some targeted areas of assistance that would help this recovery. It is a V-shaped recovery, but there are key areas that could help," Kudlow said.

"These are simple things. They have bipartisan support. We could do it as standalone bills, or an omnibus bill, or whatever. But I don't understand the intransigence from my Democratic friends."

Markets tanked on Tuesday following Trump's abrupt move to end stimulus talks, but he made an about-face in subsequent days that saw him calling for a deal.

The White House on Friday beefed up its offer, proposing a $1.8 trillion package as Trump himself said that he favored an even larger package.

But Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell poured cold water on the chances for a deal, saying Congress is unlikely to agree before the election. *AFP*

Prez campaigns bypass Facebook by using app data for voter targeting

WASHINGTON

FACEBOOK barred apps which scraped data on users and their contacts — for voter targeting — after revelations about the now-defunct British consulting group Cambridge Analytica. But in response, Donald Trump's campaign and some activist groups are using their own methods.

"What we are seeing is almost more potent than in 2016," said Samuel Woolley, a University of Texas professor who leads propaganda research at the school's Center for Media Engagement.

Woolley's team, which examined messages such as the above-referenced ones, found that the Trump mobile app, and to a lesser extent those of Democrat Joe Biden and other political activist groups, scoop up data to create profiles to craft personalized, targeted messages by SMS, email or social media.

Some apps collect data not only on the user, but his or her contacts, and track location and other activities such as shopping or churchgoing.

Campaigns can combine that with third-party info from data brokers or public records to finetune messages to specific individuals or groups.

"In 2016 there was more reliance on Facebook, and other social platforms, but now the campaigns have taken the collection of data into their own hands," said Woolley, who called the Trump app a "surveillance tool."

Many message recipients have never downloaded a political app or signed up for notifications. Some messages are effectively campaign ads, but without the disclosure required by social media platforms. *AFP*

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

India, global intel alliance seek backdoor in encryption

WASHINGTON

THE "Five Eyes" intelligence alliance demanded on Sunday that tech companies insert "backdoors" in encrypted apps to allow law enforcement agencies the access they say they need to police online criminality.

The top justice officials of the United States, Britain, Australia, Canada and New Zealand said in a statement that the growth of end-to-end encrypted apps that make official oversight impossible -- like Signal, Telegram, FaceBook Messenger and WhatsApp -- "pose significant challenges to public safety."

"There is increasing consensus across governments and international institutions that action must be taken," they said.

"While encryption is vital and privacy and cyber security must be protected, that should not come at the expense of wholly precluding law enforcement, and the tech industry itself, from being able to act against the most serious illegal content and activity online."

They called on tech companies to "embed the safety of the public in system designs," providing access to law enforcement "in a readable and usable format."

It was the strongest call yet for programmers to include "backdoor" access to encrypted communications programs.

India and Japan, which cooperate in intelligence with the Five Eyes group, added their names to the statement. Law enforcement globally has complained of the difficulty encrypted communications poses to criminal probes. *AFP*

People out socialising in Liverpool city centre, ahead of the 10 pm curfew that pubs and restaurants are subject to | AP

Britain at 'tipping point', England faces more curbs

LONDON

MILLIONS of people in northern England are anxiously waiting to hear how much further virus restrictions will be tightened as one of the British government's leading medical advisers warned Sunday that the country is at a crucial juncture in the second wave of the coronavirus.

England's deputy chief medical officer, Professor Jonathan Van-Tam, said the UK is at a "tipping point similar to where we were in March" following a sharp increase in new coronavirus cases.

"But we can prevent history repeating itself if we all act now," he said. "Now we know where it is and how to tackle it — let's grasp this opportunity and prevent history from repeating itself."

All across Europe including the UK, there have been huge increases in coronavirus cases over the past few weeks following the reopening of large sectors of the economy, as well as schools and universities. Infection levels — and deaths — in the UK are rising at their fastest rates in months.

Without quick action, there are fears that UK hospitals will be overwhelmed in the coming weeks at a time of year when they are already at their busiest with winter-related afflictions like the flu. So far, the UK has experienced Europe's deadliest virus outbreak, with over 42,750 confirmed deaths.

Although new coronavirus infections are rising throughout England, northern cities like Liverpool, Manchester and Newcastle have seen a disproportionate increase in new cases. While some rural areas in eastern England have less than 20 cases per 100,000 people, major metropolitan areas such as Manchester are recording levels above 500 per 100,000, nearly as bad as Madrid or Brussels.

As a result, national restrictions such as 10 pm curfew on pubs and restaurants have been supplemented by local actions, including in some cases banning contacts between households. *AP*

EXPRESS READ

Belarus police use stun grenades on protesters

Police deployed water cannon and stun grenades against opposition demonstrators in Minsk Sunday after strongman leader Alexander Lukashenko raised hopes for change by meeting jailed opposition figures. Large numbers of black-clad masked police, internal troops and men in plain clothes emerged from unmarked minibuses and ran towards protesters in the capital Minsk, pulling some to the ground and hitting them with batons, witness footage on independent news sites showed.

Libya's largest oil field resumes production

Libya's national oil company announced Sunday it was resuming production at the country's largest oil field as rival officials from eastern and western Libya began peace talks, part of preliminary negotiations ahead a U.N.-brokered dialogue set to take place next month. The National Oil Corporation said it lifted force majeure a legal maneuver that lets a company get out of its contracts because of extraordinary circumstances, at the southwestern Sharara oil field.

ASIA MATTERS

PAKISTAN

Cleric killed in apparent sectarian attack, Imran blames India

Gunmen riding on a motorcycle shot and killed a religious scholar who belongs to a little-known branch of Islam in Pakistan's bustling city of Karachi, police said on Sunday. The killing of Maulana Adil Khan was immediately condemned and seen as an attempt to trigger sectarian violence between Sunnis and Shiites in the country. PM Imran Khan termed it "an attempt by India to create sectarian conflict across the country," though no evidence was given that India was behind the attack. Khan is the son of late scholar Maulana Saleemullah Khan, who founded the grand seminary, Jamia Farooqia, decades ago. The seminary adheres to the Sunni teachings of the Deobandi sect, whose scholars have been the target of killings in the past.

NEPAL

Minister who once declared country Covid-free tests +ve

Nepal's tourism minister Yogesh Bhattarai has tested positive for the COVID-19, he announced on social media, nearly eight months after declaring the country free from the coronavirus to boost tourist arrivals. Bhattarai, 54, who also holds the culture and aviation portfolios, has become the first minister in the Cabinet of Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli to contract the contagion which has so far infected over 100,000 people in the Himalayan nation. In a Facebook post, the minister asked all those who were in his vicinity to be on alert.

THAILAND

Bus-train collision kills at least 18, wounds 40

At least 18 people were killed and more than 40 injured in Thailand Sunday when a freight train crashed into a bus taking passengers to a religious ceremony, officials said. The morning collision, around 50 km east of the capital, Bangkok, toppled the bus and sheared off part of its roof. More than 40 passengers were rushed to nearby medical facilities for treatment, said provincial hospital director Sombat Chutimanukul. "Four are in critical condition and eight remain under observation" out of the 23 admitted to her hospital, she told reporters. By late afternoon, more than 30 passengers who had sustained mild injuries were sent home. Footage showed the bus edging from the road onto train tracks before a cargo train slammed into its side.

Lanka gets $90 mn Chinese grant after prez seeks change in 'debt-trap' image

COLOMBO

CHINA announced on Sunday that it was providing a $90 million grant to Sri Lanka, two days after the island nation's president sought help from a visiting Chinese delegation in disproving a perception that China-funded megaprojects are "debt traps."

Calling the financial assistance a "timely grant," the Chinese Embassy in Colombo said that it would be used for medical care, education and water supplies in rural areas. and that it would "contribute to the well-being of (Sri Lankans) in a post-Covid era."

The announcement follows a visit to the Indian Ocean island nation Friday by a Chinese delegation led by Yang Jiechi, a Communist Party Politburo member and a former foreign minister.

PM Mahinda Rajapaksa (R) and Director of the Chinese Commmunist Party's Central Foreign Affairs Commission Office, Yang Jiechi | AFP

During talks with Yang, Sri Lankan President Gotabhaya Rajapaksa asked China to help him in disproving a perception that China-funded megaprojects are "debt traps" aimed at gaining influence in local affairs. China considers Sri Lanka to be a critical link in its massive "Belt and Road" initiative and has provided billions of dollars in loans for Sri Lankan projects over the past decade. The projects include a seaport, airport, port-city, highways and power stations.

Critics say that the Chinese-funded projects are not financially viable and that Sri Lanka will face difficulties in repaying the loans.

In 2017, Sri Lanka leased out a Chinese-built port located near busy shipping routes to a Chinese firm for 99 years to recover from the heavy burden of repaying the Chinese loan the country received to build it. The facility is part of Beijing's plan for a line of ports stretching from Chinese waters to Persian Gulf. *AP*

Iran reports highest daily death count

TEHRAN

Iran announced on Sunday its highest single-day death toll from the coronavirus with 251 confirmed dead, the same day local media reported two senior officials had been infected and the nation's currency plunged to its lowest level ever.

Health Ministry spokesperson Sima Sadat Lari said the total confirmed death toll now stands at 28,544, making Iran the hardest-hit country in the region. Iran had just recently recorded its highest daily death toll four days earlier with 239 new fatalities.

A further 3,822 new cases were confirmed over the past 24 hour-period. *AP*

₹1,086 cr Total amount pumped in by foreign portfolio investors on net basis in the Indian market so far in October, fuelled by uptick in economic activity.

Get over your FOMO syndrome

Your 'Fear Of Missing Out' will cloud your thinking if you are looking to time the market. You must invest regularly

TAPAS RANJAN

RAJAS KELKAR

INVESTING is all about seizing the right moment. To get to that point is no mean achievement. A lot of things have to happen before that. By the time you reach a stage where you can invest, you have successfully managed to save money. You have managed to curb your spending habits. There are a lot of small victories that you have already achieved. In the investment world, it is a new beginning. You consult your financial advisor and those in the know. You talk to people who have done investing for years. The idea is to find out the right investment strategy.

Financial markets move in cycles. Stock markets are even more volatile. They move in tandem with the profits of businesses. However, the path equity assets take is volatile. When share prices are at a record high, many new investors enter equity markets. Between March to October 2020, benchmark indices like the NSE Nifty and S&P BSE Sensex have had a roller coaster. A dramatic crash in March was followed by a slow climb up. These indices are now almost at a level where they were before the lockdown.

Many of you are new to equity markets. You have jumped at the idea of buying at a low price when share prices fell. A lot of you also did not want to miss out.

When it appears that everyone around you is making money in the stock market, you do not want to miss out on the action. Your colleagues, friends, relatives discuss stocks that made them rich or helped them create wealth attracts a lot of attention. You want to have a slice of the good fortune too.

The fear of missing out or FOMO is now a research topic. If you search online, you will find papers written by psychologists and researchers. The proliferation of social media means people can announce their wins in financial matters or personal life. A lot of that feeling of missing out comes from social media.

Be that as it may, you need to focus on your goals. Any deviation from them just because you are getting a FOMO syndrome due to short-term considerations would hurt your path to financial security.

To get rid of that feeling, you need to stay on the path of regular investing. If you are investing every month, you will benefit from the market cycles. Your fear of missing out will cloud your thinking if you are looking to time the market.

Market timing is to know when the share price of a stock is appropriate for buying and selling. As an individual, it is not easy to figure that out. You do not have the information you need to arrive at such a decision. You need resources to get that information.

The best option is to stay put in your systematic investment plans. Professional fund managers managing your money can figure that out for you if you regularly invest through mutual funds. You can also pick eight or ten stocks that are market leaders in their respective sectors and put money in them every month. Or you can put your money in the Nifty or Sensex exchange-traded funds.

It is easier for you to do that if you are a non-finance person and do not follow market trends every day.

If you are financially aware or in the company of people who are more knowledgeable than you are, you need to tread with caution. Buying anything just because someone else says may or may not work in your favour. The primary reason for that is the difference in financial goals. Your investments must be in line with your financial goals. You must not deviate from that even if you come across a 'hot tip'.

The other way is to create a risky asset corpus. After securing regular investments for your financial goals, you can set aside some money to act on market information that you think could help. However, you should be willing to lose that money if markets do not move in the direction you want them to.

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

MONEY-WISE

INVESTING IN YOUR CHILD'S NAME IS A BETTER IDEA

MANY people ask me this question.."Should we invest in our child's name?". The answer is not so clear. Legally speaking, it does not matter whether you invest in your name or in your child's name. Once upon a time when taxation was a consideration, creating many folios made sense. Today with tax not being a consideration, does it make sense to invest in your child's name?

In my view, yes. Start a SIP as soon as the child is born or as soon as you get your child a bank account. It is now NOT POSSIBLE to invest from your account too. So start the SIP from your child's account. Of course he/she does not have any income, but you will use your money to create a corpus for the child. The KYC (Know your customer) will have to be done by either of the parents.

From time to time whatever gifts they get should also go into that account.and the child should see that statement on a REGULAR basis. When the post comes HOME in the child's name the kid will be proud that he/she gets some post - just like the older people.

Tell him that this money is being created for a corpus - but he is allowed to have fun with ₹2000 once a year. See whether he wants to withdraw it. Most of the time they do not. It feels like "their" money. So when a slightly less justified demand comes up -just hint that the money will come from that account. In many cases, the demand for that product will be postponed or cancelled. One more thing that you can do is to say "we will buy that new shoe with 50% from your money and 50% mine" — again the chances are demand may go down!

Value systems, money, concentration, patience, cooking, .are skills which parents have to teach. Do not abdicate your duty. Nobody else will teach your child how to save money. Or how to invest. My daughter said "why should my money be in a bank fixed deposit when it can earn better in shares". I said "there is risk". She said: "Even if I were to lose it all, you will give it to me - so the risk is on YOU, not me".

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹ 40 a day'

There are books available for children too! One book taught her about risk, and now she has started doing some reading. She knows that 'her money' or whatever it means is in Equity Mutual funds and a couple of ULIPs. That should take care of her education for sure assuming she goes abroad for her post graduation. However, she never ever suggests removing that money to buy something which she wants. No, she will not think of buying an iPhone with 'her' money. To be fair, she has not asked for an iPhone even with my money!!

So forget the 'legal' necessity to keep money in children's names, it makes sense from a teaching point of view. Do remember it gives the kids to walk out at age 18 and claim all the amount. Hopefully, it will not happen, but make sure that the amount that you have in children's names is not too much - tempting them to walk out, and you not having money for yourself!!

IRDAI

Panel moots lower entry level capital for microinsurance

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@New Delhi

TO increase the penetration of micro-insurance, a committee set up by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has suggested that entry-level capital requirements for micro-insurance companies should be reduced from the current ₹100 crore to a maximum of ₹20 crore.

Micro-insurance is a mechanism to protect low-income individuals against risks such as death, accidents, illness and natural disasters in exchange for insurance premium payments tailored to their needs, income and level of risk. The minimum capital requirement (MCR) of ₹100 crore stipulated under the Insurance Act has acted as the biggest impediment to the expansion of the micro-insurance market, the committee said in its report.

"At the Reserve Bank of India, it was this recognition that led to a 60 per cent reduction in MCR for establishment of small finance banks and an 80 per cent reduction in MCR for establishment of payments banks," it said, adding "After their licensing, these newer institutions, particularly small finance banks, have contributed enormously towards an orderly expansion of banking services to low and middle-income households living in the remotest parts of the country. There is every reason to suggest that the same would apply to micro-insurance if capital requirement is reduced."

The committee also recommended if 500 million low and middle income individuals and families are to obtain insurance, the market will have to be expanded urgently and this can be done by allowing the entry of new participants.

Sebi's new risk-o-meter a boon for MF investors

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@New Delhi

IN a big relief to investors, who were wary of mutual fund schemes post the Franklin Templeton fiasco, market regulator Security Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has devised a new "risk-o-meter" that will inform investors on an ongoing basis of the risk contained in the mutual fund schemes they are planning to buy, or are invested in.

Last week, in detailed guidelines for determining the place of a mutual fund on its revised risk-o-meter tool, Sebi also added a fresh category of 'very high' risk. The asset management companies have to disclose the risk-o-meter along with portfolio disclosure for all their schemes on their website and on AMFI website within ten days from the close of each month so that investors are updated with risk associated with their hard earned cash in a transparent manner. Mutual Funds also have to publish a history of risk-o-meter changes every year.

"Risk value for the debt portfolio shall be a simple average of credit risk value, interest rate risk value and liquidity risk value. However, if the liquidity risk value is higher than the average of credit risk value, liquidity risk value and interest rate risk value then the value of liquidity risk shall be considered as risk value of the debt portfolio," according to guidelines issued by Sebi. The risk value for equity portfolio shall be a simple average of market capitalization value, volatility value and impact cost value.

The new system will be implemented from January 1, 2021, so that mutual funds have enough time to comply with it. What followed the move was on April 23, Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund wound up six fixed income schemes citing "severe market dislocation and illiquidity". This created fear among investors in the market.

Officials from Sebi also said that in their internal probe they had found the mutual fund was taking on far more risk, which only worsened with the Covid-19 outbreak and ultimately the investors suffered as they were not aware of the risks.

Labelling norms of 'dividend option'

Markets regulator Sebi has also introduced labelling norms for the dividend options of mutual funds which will come into effect from April 1, 2021. Under the new norms, mutual funds will have to rename dividend options as income distribution cum capital withdrawal.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

MANAPPURAM FINANCE

Current Price ₹166.15

Target Price ₹185

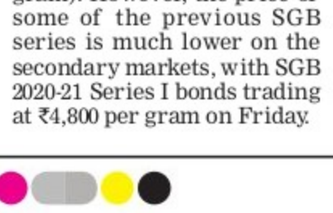
Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *TNIE*.

Over the past few years, it has rapidly expanded the share of its non-gold loan AUM to de-risk the business from gold price volatility. Over FY20-23E, MGFL's loan CAGR is expected at ~18% helped by healthy gold loan growth in FY21 and likely pick up in non-gold loan growth from FY22. We believe the firm would deliver 15% consolidated loan book CAGR along with 16-17% PPoP/PAT CAGR over FY20-23E.

— Motilal Oswal Securities Limited

New sovereign gold bond tranche a good option for long-term hedging

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@New Delhi



IF you have an affinity to invest in gold as the preferred method of hedging long-term risks to your portfolio, the government's Sovereign Gold Bond (SGB) scheme is one of the most cost-effective ways of doing so. The seventh tranche of the SGB opens for subscription Monday with a fixed issue price of ₹5,051 per gram (or ₹5,001 per gram if you choose to invest digitally), but picking up these bonds may not be the best option for all.

For one thing, these are relatively long-term commitments. The SGB has a maturity period of 8 years, with an exit option becoming available after five. The redemption price will also depend on the prevailing gold price at maturity. While one can trade SGBs on the bond/stock markets at any point, selling them before maturity may fetch significantly lower returns if there isn't much demand at the time. If liquidity is a prime concern, then analysts note that gold Exchange Traded Funds are better options.

However, SGBs have certain advantages that pay off quite well if one holds on for the full eight-year tenure. First, SGBs provide a steady income in the form of a 2.5 per cent annual interest rate, on the nominal value, paid by the government twice a year. Depending on the amount invested, accumulated interest could turn out to be a tidy sum on its own. Far more attractive is the tax exemption on capital gains. This means that while interest is taxed at the relevant slab, any capital returns you make at redemption is completely tax free. And like other financial gold instruments, SGBs do not have the wide range of service charges that come with buying and selling physical gold.

But, how attractive is the upcoming issue? First, the issue price is lower than that of the previous series: August 3-7 (₹5,334 per gram) and August 31-Sept 4 (₹5,117 per gram). However, the price of some of the previous SGB series is much lower on the secondary markets, with SGB 2020-21 Series I bonds trading at ₹4,800 per gram on Friday.

EXPRESS READ

Vedanta delisting fails, co seeks extension of buyback period

New Delhi: Vedanta Ltd's delisting went from almost-a-success to failure on account of a large quantity of unconfirmed orders, forcing the company to look for options to extend the buyback period by a day. In a regulatory filing, Vedanta said its buyback offer failed as per the regulatory terms after promoter Vedanta Resources did not receive the required number of shares to delist it.

Digital payments soar manifold in five years to FY20: RBI

New Delhi: Concerted efforts by the Reserve Bank to move to a less-cash economy have begun to pay rich dividends as the volume of digital payments has jumped manifold in the past five years, the latest data from the central bank showed. Between 2015-16 and 2019-20, such payments have grown at a CAGR of 55.1% from 593.61 crore in the year to March 2016 to 3,434 crore in March 2020.

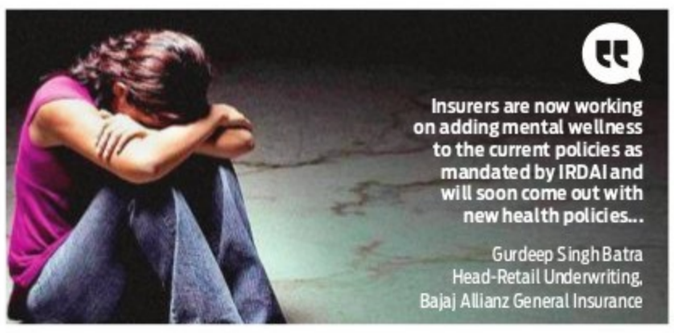
Five out of 12 public sector bank stocks trade near face value

New Delhi: Five out of 12 public sector banks (PSBs) are trading near the face value of their equity shares on bourses regardless of a rally in stock benchmark indices. Shares of state-run Indian Overseas Bank are even trading below the face value of ₹10 per share. Remaining four PSBs: UCO Bank, Bank of Maharashtra, Punjab & Sind Bank and Central Bank are trading near the face value.

INSURANCE

Policies with mental illness could raise costs

BISMAH MALIK @ Bengaluru


Insurers are now working on adding mental wellness to the current policies as mandated by IRDAI and will soon come out with new health policies...
Gurdeep Singh Batra
Head-Retail Underwriting,
Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

THE significance of health insurance policies has never been more felt than now, when the world is challenged by a pandemic. The governments worldwide have stepped in to ensure that treatments such as mental illnesses, telemedicine are now included in the general health policy.

In India, insurance regulator Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has asked insurers to standardise health policies by making them more inclusive and customer-oriented. IRDAI came up with the new provision after the Supreme Court in June directed it to treat the mental illnesses as physical illness while providing the covers.

The new regulations came into effect on October 1, 2020. The standardisation of the health policies now includes redefining the pre-existing diseases on the basis of symptoms duration and onset of illness, not rejecting any claim after eight years of issuance of the policy, deciding on the claim within 30 days from the date of its receipt, coverage of telemedicine and mental illnesses as well as modern treatments like chemotherapies, implants etc.

While insurers are now working to add these new features to the policies, industry officials say that the same will result in over pricing of these covers. Take the case of mental health illnesses, the current health insurance policies would entail coverage of hospitalisation and OPDcharges (in some cases) for any psychiatric treatment.

"The new health covers will dig deeper holes in the customer's pockets since they will now have to pay higher premiums. However, on the brighter side, the health insurance policies will offer a wide range of services especially the telemedicine fees and mental health treatments, the demand for which has surged during the pandemic," said Hemant Kumar, a Bengaluru-based insurance sales official.

For an ordinary customer, although the new regulations do end the ambiguity on policy settlements and inclusion of various disorders, the higher pricing of the policies will act as a dampener in the pandemic times.

"We are already burdened with paying EMIs amid the current recessionary times. Although buying a health insurance cover seems like a good idea right now, higher pricing / premiums should not be a pain-point," said Ankita Dhawan, a techie.

Spain, Germany win in Nations League

Mikel Oyarzabal pounced on a horror slip by Swiss captain Granit Xhaka to seal a 1-0 victory for Spain in the Nations League in Madrid on Saturday. Striker Oyarzabal's strike in the 14th minute turned out to be the winner for Spain. The night's other League A Group 4 match saw Germany beat Ukraine 2-1 in Kiev.

Slam-bang to Major master

Nadal annihilates Djokovic in French Open final to equal Federer's record of 20

AP @ Paris

RAFAEL Nadal tied Roger Federer with 20 Grand Slam titles by producing a nearly perfect performance against Novak Djokovic in the French Open final.

Nadal equaled long-time rival Federer for the most major singles tennis championships won by a man and added to his own record at Roland Garros with No. 13 on the red clay, courtesy of a surprisingly dominant 6-0, 6-2, 7-5 victory over the No. 1-ranked Djokovic on Sunday.

When Nadal ended it with an ace, he dropped to his knees, smiled widely and pumped his arms. He did not cede a set in his favorite tournament this year. Nadal limited his unforced errors to 14 across 183 points, impressive against anyone, but especially someone the caliber of Djokovic, who accumulated 52.

Nadal, No. 2 in the rankings, improved to 100-2 at the French Open, including a combined 26-0 in semifinals and finals,

It's been a very tough year. Just playing here is a true inspiration. The love story I have with this court and city is unbelievable.

Rafael Nadal

and picked up his fourth consecutive title in Paris. The 34-year-old left-hander from Spain previously put together streaks of four French Open championships from 2005-08, then five in a row from 2010-14, to go alongside his four trophies at the U.S. Open, two at Wimbledon and one at the Australian Open.

Nadal is now even with Federer for the first time since each man had zero Slams to his name in 2003. Federer's first arrived at Wimbledon that year; Nadal, naturally, earned his first in France in 2005, by which point he trailed 4-0. Djokovic's loss left him at 17 majors; had he won, the trio's standings would have read 20-19-18. Nadal is the oldest French Open champion since 1972 and the more than 15 years between his first and most recent Grand Slam titles is the longest such span for a man.

This was the 56th installment of Nadal vs. Djokovic, the most meetings between any pair of men in the professional era, and their ninth in a Grand Slam final, equaling Nadal vs. Federer for the most.

Djokovic had won 14 of the last 18 matchups against Nadal, and led 29-26 overall, including a 6-3, 6-2, 6-3 win at the 2019 Australian Open final.

Nadal allowed Djokovic one fewer game this time.

WISHES FROM FEDERER

"I have always had the utmost respect for my friend Rafa as a person and as a champion. As my greatest rival over many years, I believe we have pushed each other to become better players. Therefore, it is a true honor for me to congratulate him on his 20th Grand Slam victory. It is especially amazing that he has now won Roland Garros an incredible 13 times. I also congratulate his team, because nobody can do this alone. I hope 20 is just another step on the continuing journey for both of us. "

Rafael Nadal celebrates after beating Novak Djokovic on Sunday | AFP

0 Nadal didn't drop a single set on way to the title. This is the fourth time (all in Paris) he's done it, an Open Era record.

2 Nadal has won at least one Grand Slam title every year since winning his first crown in 2005, barring the years 2015 and 2016.

RAGING BULL

Clay's high priest raced to a 20th Grand Slam win following a surreal three-set win over the World No 1.

AN ALL-TIME GREAT FINAL PERFORMANCE

Forget using words like 'beat'. This was an evisceration, a demolition job that nobody in their right minds would have predicted. Nadal did not give Djokovic time to breathe and by the time the Serb got on the scoreboard, it was 55 minutes into the match, with Nadal up a set. The 0-6, 2-6 double blow in the beginning was too much for Djokovic to overtun.

THAT UNFORCED ERRORS COUNT

Djokovic, a 17-time Slam winner himself, could have been at his absolute best and he would have still lost. Such was Nadal's mastery, but the Serb made it difficult for himself with error after error. By the time Nadal had won the match and his 20th career Grand Slam, the 33-year-old had clocked 52 unforced errors to the Spaniard's 14.

NADAL'S SERVICE GAMES

The key to besting Djokovic, to state the bleeding obvious, is to have solid service games. The Spaniard did just that, winning 67% of his first serves and 66% of his second serve points. That Djokovic had only two break point opportunities in two sets told its own story. Fittingly enough, Nadal finished the contest with an ace that hardly gave Djokovic the time to react, forget return.

IPL TABLE

Team	MP	W	L	Pts	NRR
MI	7	5	2	10	1.327
DC	7	5	2	10	1.038
KKR	6	4	2	8	0.017
RCB	6	4	2	8	-0.82
SRH	7	3	4	6	0.153
RR	7	3	4	6	-0.872
CSK	7	2	5	4	-0.588
KXIP	7	1	6	2	-0.381

ORANGE CAP: KL RAHUL 387 RUNS

PURPLE CAP: RABADA 17 WKTS

SIX-O-METER: 367

FAIRPLAY: KKR

Updated till MI vs DC match

For news, views and more log on to newindianexpress.com/sports/ipl

SPORTING LIFE

LIVE TODAY

CRICKET

RCB vs KKR @ 7.30 PM

Star Sports 1/Hotstar

FOOTBALL

Nations League: Sony Pictures Networks 12:15 am

BCCI names teams for Women's T20 Challenge

MUMBAI: India's white ball captains Harmanpreet Kaur and Mithali Raj along with Smriti Mandhana have been named captains of Supernovas, Trailblazers and Velocity squads respectively for the upcoming Women's T20 Challenge scheduled from November 4 to 9 in the UAE.

Tewatia, Parag pull off stunning win

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

RAHUL Tewatia is slowly but surely showing everyone that he is a capable finisher. While we got a glimpse of that against Kings XI Punjab early in the tournament, the Rajasthan Royals batsman's performance against Sunrisers Hyderabad on Sunday served as another proof of his finishing ability.

On a day when his illustrious teammates like Ben Stokes, Steve Smith, Jos Buttler and Sanju Samson failed, Tewatia combined with 18-year-old Riyan Parag to pull off an improbable victory against David Warners's men.

Chasing a tricky target of 159 at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, Royals managed to win by 5 wickets to breathe new life into their campaign.

Prior to the game, a lot of focus was on Ben Stokes and whether he would play. The English cricketer did feature but failed to make an impact and the day well and truly belonged to the Tewatia-Parag duo. The two stitched together an 85-run partnership for the sixth wicket that steered Rajasthan to victory after an early batting collapse had threatened to derail them.

Stokes, Smith and Buttler were all back in the dugout inside the fifth over and the likes of Sanju Samson (26) and Robin Uthappa (18) couldn't contribute much as Royals were in trouble at 78 for the loss of five wickets and staring at their fifth straight defeat. But Tewatia (45) and Parag (42) batted all the way till the end and changed gears in the death overs to see the team home. The icing on the cake for Royals was seeing Parag smashing Khaleel Ahmed for a winning six and breaking into an impromptu 'Bihu' jig.

Brief scores: SRH 158/4 in 20 overs (Pandey 54, Warner 48; Archer 1/25) **lost to** RR 163/5 in 19.5 overs (Tewatia 45 n.o, Parag 42 n.o).

Rahul Tewatia (L) & Riyan Parag's 85-run partnership proved decisive | SPORTZPICS

DELHI'S PANT THE LATEST TO GET INJURED

Delhi Capitals took the field against Mumbai Indians on Sunday sans Rishabh Pant. Alex Carey came in as his replacement which altered Delhi's combination. Later on Delhi captain Shreyas Iyer revealed that Pant will be out for a week, meaning he will be unavailable for Wednesday's match against Rajasthan Royals. The wicketkeeper is also likely to miss the game against Chennai Super Kings on Saturday as the nature of his injury is not clear.

Mumbai trump Delhi to move top of table

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

EIGHTY for two after 10 overs. The first half of the first innings belonged to Delhi Capitals, who had lost Prithvi Shaw and Ajinkya Rahane inside five overs. Skipper Shreyas Iyer was playing a gem. With Shikhar Dhawan for company, he seemed to be leading Delhi to a big total.

It won't be unfair to say that Mumbai Indians were the better side in the second half of the first innings in Abu Dhabi on Sunday. Conceding 82 in the last 10 overs when the opposition had a platform, with stroke-players to follow, was a good effort with the ball.

That proved decisive as Mumbai came up with a concerted effort with the bat as well to post a five-wicket win with two balls to spare. It helped them climb to the top of the table, with 10 points from seven games. Delhi are also on 10 points, but behind on nett run rate. After the early loss of Rohit Sharma, Quinton de Kock kept the scoreboard moving. The South African dominated a second-wicket stand with Suryakumar Yadav before falling for a 36-ball 53. Yadav too hit 53 (32 balls). Although these two couldn't see their team to victory, useful runs from Ishan Kishan (28 off 15) and a late partnership between Kieron Pollard and Krunal Pandya took Mumbai home.

Quinton de Kock

Earlier, after Trent Boult and Krunal got rid of two players based in Mumbai, a third stepped up to upset their plans. Iyer was in the kind of touch that suggested he had no need to hit the ball hard. It just raced away after coming in touch with the bat. But his departure in the 15th over brought Mumbai back.

Brief scores: Delhi 162/4 in 20 ovs (Dhawan 69 n.o, Iyer 42, Pandya 2/26) lost to Mumbai 166/5 in 19.4 ovs (De Kock 53, Suryakumar 53, Rabada 2/28).

Troubled KKR meet resurgent RCB

Both Kolkata Knight Riders and Royal Challengers Bangalore will look to continue their winning momentum when they take on each other in Sharjah on Monday. Here are a few talking points...

PLENTY OF WORRIES FOR KKR

Sunil Narine helped Kolkata script a thrilling two-run win over Punjab on Saturday but was reported for suspect action after the match. Though he is free to bowl, a second such report will debar him from bowling in the competition. Another worry for the two-time champions will be fitness of Andre Russell, who hurt his knee while fielding.

IN-FORM KOHLI

After below-par show in the first three outings, skipper Virat Kohli seems to have find his mojo back with two half-centuries in the next three matches. Young Devdutt Padikkal is also in good touch. AB de Villiers' has been off colour of late. After some useful knocks in the first couple of matches, he has reached double figures only once in the past three matches.

3 Virat Kohli needs 3 sixes to reach 200-mark in the tournament.

188 Dinesh Karthik has played 188 IPL matches so far, which is fourth on the all-time list.

RCB vs KKR HEAD-TO-HEAD RCB 10, KKR 14 FORM GUIDE (LAST 5 MATCHES) RCB: LWWLW. KKR: WWLWW

FOOTBALL FRACAS

Suspicion results in coach axing

ATREYO MUKHOPADHYAY @ Chennai

MOHAMMEDAN Sporting had made a perfect start in the I-League qualifiers being played in and around Kolkata. The 129-year-old club trying to rebuild after years in oblivion won their first two matches. And that's when all hell broke loose, bringing Indian football to news for unwanted reasons.

Coach Yan Law said after Sunday's match he was resigning. The club issued a statement saying Law's contract had been terminated. While no one explained why, it emerged that suspicion of throwing away matches was the heart of the problem. In the official statements, however, no reason was cited from either side.

It was learnt that the presence of Minerva Punjab FC owner Ranjit Bajaj in the team hotel prompted Mohammedan Sporting officials to smell something wrong. Law was Minerva coach last season and there are a few players from the club at Mohammedan Sporting this season. Club officials apparently felt Bajaj was trying to use his influence on Law and the players to ensure that Mohammedan Sporting did not do well. Why Bajaj or Minerva Punjab — who are not part of the I-League qualifiers — would do that remains unexplained.

FC Bengaluru United win

In the second game of the day, FC Bengaluru United beat Garhwal FC 1-0 at Kalyani Stadium. William Opoku scored the lone and winning goal of the contest in the seventh minute.

Vinesh joins natl camp, Sakshi expected soon

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

NATIONAL camp for women wrestlers began at SAI, Lucknow, on Saturday with star grappler Vinesh Phogat (53kg) and Divya Kakran (68kg) set to join on Sunday. Rio Olympic bronze medallist Sakshi Malik (62kg) and three other wrestlers have not joined the camp yet. She has intimated Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) and is expected to join soon.

A total of 15 wrestlers in five Olympic weight categories apart from chief coach Kuldeep Yadav, coach Sahil Sharma, physiotherapist Dhirendra Pratap Singh and masseuse Jagroshni were named for the camp by the federation.

"Seven wrestlers, chief coach and coach reported on Saturday. Pooja Dhanda (57kg) was accompanied by her physio Satya Prakash," said Sanjay Saraswat, director of SAI, Lucknow. A few wrestlers including Tokyo-bound Vinesh requested the WFI to allow their personal staff to accompany them in the camp. The WFI has accepted their requests.

"I have some work to finish. I will join once it's done. I don't know when but I have informed the federation," Sakshi told this daily. Others who haven't joined are Seema (50kg), Lalita (53kg) and Nisha (68kg).

The wrestlers were allowed entry only after producing Covid-19 negative certificates. As per the SOP issued by Sports Authority of India, they will serve a seven-day quarantine period before starting training on individual basis for the next seven days. They will also take an RT-PCR test on the sixth day after their arrival.

EXPRESS READ

Chennaiyin in rope in Portuguese attacker Isma

CHENNAI: Two-time champions Chennaiyin FC on Sunday announced the signing of Portuguese attacker Esmael Goncalves, who has the experience of playing in the UEFA Champions League, on a free transfer for the 2020-21 ISL season. The 29-year-old, better known as Isma, is capable of playing anywhere across the forward line and is set for his maiden stint in India. "It feels great to join Chennaiyin FC, a club that represents a city with rich culture and a wonderful fanbase," Isma was quoted as saying.

Roller-coaster Round 3 for Sharma, tied 44th

WENTWORTH: Shubhankar Sharma endured a roller-coaster third round, carding an even par 72 to lie tied 44th at the BMW PGA Championship. The golfer had contrasting fortunes as he had a double bogey and a triple bogey on successive holes on the front nine and three birdies without any loss of shots on the back nine. His even-par round saw him stay at one-under for the tournament. He ran into early trouble before clawing his way back somewhat.

Mixed day for Indian women in Asian meet

CHENNAI: The Indian women's chess team endured mixed fortunes, winning the first two matches before being upstaged by Iran which pushed them to eighth spot after three rounds of the Asian Online Nations Cup Team Championship on Sunday. The team led by Mary Ann Gomes started with a 4-0 rout of Syria before edging Mongolia 2.5-1-5. In the third round, the top seeds went down 1.5-2.5 to sixth-ranked Iran despite R Vaishali posting a victory on the top board.

RACING

Hamilton equals Schumi's record

AFP @ Nurburgring

LEWIS Hamilton equalled Michael Schumacher's record of 91 Formula One wins on Sunday when he guided his Mercedes to a narrow victory at a frantic Eifel Grand Prix.

Taking full advantage of team-mate and pole-sitter Valtteri Bottas' early retirement with engine problems, the runaway series leader and six-time champion drove a well-judged race to claim his seventh victory from 11 contests this year.

"What a result," he said on the Mercedes team radio after taking the chequered flag clear of Max Verstappen for Red Bull with Renault's Daniel Ricciardo in third. Schumacher's 21-year-old son Mick, a rising star and leader of the F2 series, presented Hamilton with a red helmet from his father's career collection. "Congratulations on a great achievement," said Schumacher junior.

"It's such an honour," said a surprised Hamilton as many of the 20,000 fans scattered around the circuit gave the Englishman a standing ovation.

MILESTONE MAN

Hamilton's track record so far...

C'ships 6 (2008, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019)

Wins: 91

Podiums: 160

Career points: 3661

GRAND RETURNS

1 Michael Schumacher (GER) **91**
1 Lewis Hamilton (GBR) **91**
2 Sebastian Vettel (GER) **53**
3 Alain Prost (FRA) **51**
4 Ayrton Senna (BRA) **41**
5 Fernando Alonso (ESP) **32**

I didn't imagine that I would ever be here. It's an incredible honour.
Lewis Hamilton, after matching Michael Schumacher's record

MotoGP: Marquez second

Le Mans: He may have started 18th on the grid but Honda's Alex Marquez stormed from back to front to finish 2nd at the rain-hit French MotoGP on Sunday. With constant rain and a delayed start, the race was reduced by a lap and that was a sign of things as the rain held centre-stage. Ducati's Danilo Petrucci finished first. Pol Espargaro of KTM settled for final spot on the podium.

Wildfires spread across different areas of Israel and the West Bank for a second day on Saturday. Israeli Police said firefighters and police forces evacuated 5,000 residents from the city of Nof Hagalil in northern Israel.

The flu drug favipiravir has shown promise in preventing Covid-19 infection in rodents when administered in high doses, said researchers in a study published in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.*

Earth's supposedly new mini-moon is space junk from 1960s

SCIENCE

CAPE CANAVERAL: The jig may be up for an "asteroid" that's expected to get nabbed by Earth's gravity and become a mini moon next month.

Instead of a cosmic rock, the newly discovered object appears to be an old rocket from a failed Moon-landing mission 54 years ago that's finally making its way back home, according to NASA's leading asteroid expert. Observations should help nail its identity.

"I'm pretty jazzed about this," Paul Chodas told *The Associated Press*. "It's been a hobby of mine to find one of these and draw such a link, and I've been doing it for decades now."

Chodas speculates that asteroid 2020 SO, as it is formally known, is actually the Centaur upper rocket stage that successfully propelled NASA's Surveyor 2 lander to the Moon in 1966 before it was discarded. The lander ended up crashing into the Moon after one of its thrusters failed to ignite on the way there. The rocket, meanwhile, swept past the Moon and into orbit around the sun as intended junk, never to be seen again — until perhaps now.

A telescope in Hawaii last month discovered the mystery object heading our way while doing a search intended to protect our planet.

The object promptly was added to the International Astronomical Union's Minor Planet Center's tally of asteroids and comets found in our solar system, just 5,000 shy of the 1 million mark.

Asteroid hunter Carrie Nugent of Olin College of Engineering in Needham, Massachusetts, said Chodas' conclusion is "a good one" based on solid evidence.

The object is estimated to be roughly 26 feet based on its brightness. That's in the ballpark of the old Centaur, which would be less than 32 feet long including its engine nozzle and 10 feet in diameter.

RESEARCH

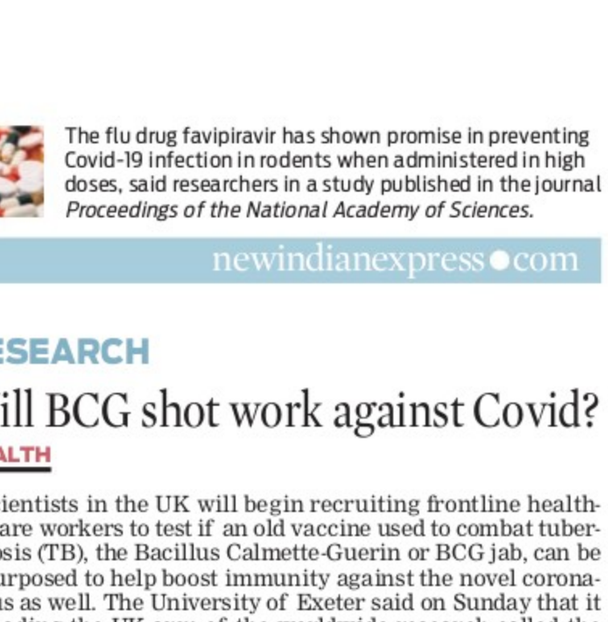
Will BCG shot work against Covid?

HEALTH

Scientists in the UK will begin recruiting frontline healthcare workers to test if an old vaccine used to combat tuberculosis (TB), the Bacillus Calmette-Guerin or BCG jab, can be repurposed to help boost immunity against the novel coronavirus as well. The University of Exeter said on Sunday that it is leading the UK arm of the worldwide research called the 'BCG vaccination to Reduce the impact of COVID-19 in healthcare workers' (BRACE) trial. Previous studies suggest that the BCG vaccine could reduce susceptibility to a range of infections caused by viruses including those similar to the novel coronavirus causing Covid-19.

BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE

EXPRESS CONNECTS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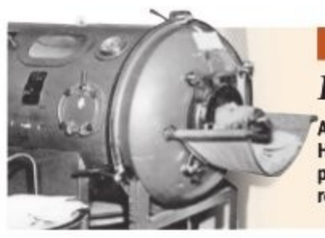


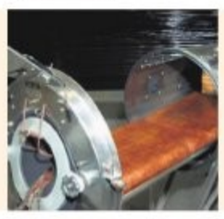
DAY'S DIARY

Iron lung used

A young polio sufferer at Children's Hospital in Boston became the first person to use the iron lung artificial respirator on this day in 1928

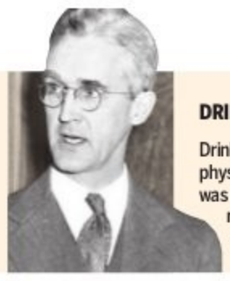
THE MACHINE

An iron lung, form of medical ventilator, is a large machine that enables a person to breathe when normal muscle control has been lost or the work of breathing exceeds the person's ability



INVENTOR

It was invented by Philip Drinker, an industrial hygienist from the Harvard School of Public Health. After its use, the patient's recovery was almost instantaneous



DRINKER RESPIRATOR

Drinker co-invented it along with physician Louis Agassiz Shaw. It was first known as the 'Drinker respirator' but was soon given the nickname, 'iron lung'

Srikanth enters James

PG 4

Digital marketer Nivi Selvaraj misses her pre-pandemic routine

OF WORRIES, FRUSTRATION AND HUMDRUM

Existential crises, extra hours, no contact with colleagues. The work from home life might be keeping professionals physically safe but the same can't be said about their mental health

• **Simran Ahuja**

Earlier, I logged off by 7pm but now, I have work till 9pm. The two hours I used to spend commuting is now dedicated to working

—**Santhosh K Gowda,** techie

Remote working caused my existential crisis to peak. Once the frustration hit the roof, I knew I had to look for another job

—**Somil Uchil,** copywriter

Our kitchen, living room and bedroom are all temporary workspaces and there are always house chores to attend to

—**Roshini Singh,** teacher

When Somil Uchil arrived in Bengaluru in July 2019, he had a clear plan: Work in the city's advertising scene for two years before exploring other fields. However, some months down, the coronavirus struck, leaving Uchil, along with everyone else, stuck indoors as bedrooms and living rooms turned into workspaces. "I always had a feeling I didn't enjoy advertising much but the collaborative vibe in an office, spending time with colleagues and impromptu lunch plans compensated for the work. But with work from home (WFH), everything I liked about my job disappeared," says the advertising professional who hails from Mumbai. By July this year, the 25-year-old was on the lookout for other jobs. Now serving his notice period, Uchil adds, "Remote working caused my existential crisis to peak. Once the frustration hit the roof, I knew I had to cut my original plan of two years in Bengaluru short and look for something else back home."

Uchil is one example of the many professionals who are grappling with the downside of working from home. A recent Workforce Confidence Index by LinkedIn found that at least two in five working professionals in India are experiencing increased anxiety due to the pandemic. About 42 per cent of remote workers were concerned about long hours at the job, balancing work and home, financial insecurity and social isolation.

For Santhosh K Gowda, the biggest gripe with WFH comes from the lack of breaks. "Earlier, I logged off by 7pm but now, I have work till 9pm. The two hours I used to spend commuting is now dedicated to working," rues the techie. Nivi Selvaraj misses her old routine. Though motivation was high during the initial days of the lockdown, it gave way to working in pyjamas, lunch at late hours and showering in the evenings. But there's more worrying the digital marketer. "I love jogging in the park but now, with safety restrictions around that, I can't push myself to pursue the goals I set for myself. Some days I don't even get out of bed," she says.

According to Dr Jini K Gopinath, chief psychology officer, YourDOST, in one month alone, over 22 patients (from B'luru and Hyderabad) have expressed WFH dilemmas. These were all women clients, whose numbers were much higher than the 5-6 male clients he attended to. "Unfortunately, women bear the heavier burden of this lifestyle. Not only is she working from home, she is also working for home." Just ask Chitra N, teacher, New Pratham Public School. In addition to adjusting to a new way of conducting classes, she also has to look after her own child's virtual classes. "I have to sit next to her or help her with her own online classes while also ensuring that my own students are able to understand what I teach them," she explains. Her colleague, Roshini Singh, who teaches Hindi in the same school, echoes similar concerns. "My husband, son and I all work from home. Our kitchen, living room and bedroom are all temporary workspaces but the work doesn't end there. There are always house chores to attend to," she says.

It's been six months since the lockdown but the situation still looks uncertain, leaving professionals to adopt different coping strategies. While Chitra looks for peace in meditation, Selvaraj turns to hula-hooping. Gowda, who finds a run therapeutic, sums it up: "I never knew I'd say this but I can't wait to be back in office soon."

Operating with humour

• **Simran Ahuja**

Dr Jagdish Chaturvedi

Doctor, comedian, author, medical device innovator... This city-based ENT surgeon sure dons many hats. But balancing all these roles hasn't always been an easy task for Dr Jagdish Chaturvedi. The hurdles he encountered while trying to balance his love for theatre, medicine and innovation have been captured in a humourous manner through a six-episode web series – *Starting Troubles* – which Chaturvedi conceptualised and acted in, besides Bollywood actors Renuka Sahane (from *Hum Aapke Hain Koun* fame), Parikshit Sahni (*3 Idiots, PK*) and Kurush Deboo (*Munna Bhai MBBS*). Now, the series, which released in India earlier this year, has been picked up by Amazon Prime UK and USA too. "To be honest, it was not a high-quality production but an amateur effort to make something for the medical fraternity, where we represent them well by using accurate medical language and contexts," says Chaturvedi, who works at Fortis Hospital, Bannerghatta Road.

The medical comedy series was made in ₹50 lakh, and can be accessed on HiiiH – Healthcare Innovation for Indian Healthcare. Due to budget constraints, the team came up with an ingenious narrative tool to put forth the story, which is based on Chaturvedi's experiences from his MBBS days, as he managed theatre and entrepreneurship. "Most web series make an episode alone in ₹75 lakh or 1 crore and our entire budget was ₹50 lakh. We used a mix of standup and narrative scenes, since the former don't need much in terms of resources to shoot. The show has me performing a sketch where I take the audience through the story, and these parts are then played out through flashbacks for which we used full-fledged scenes and sets," explains Chaturvedi. The show, he adds, can now reach Indian doctors abroad through Amazon Prime UK. Though set in an Indian context, it is universal enough for every doctor. So much so, that medical students in Nigeria have also reached out to Chaturvedi about the show. "We put out a short clip online and somehow, it happened to reach students in Nigeria, who found it relatable. The medical culture we show is something a doctor anywhere can relate to," he explains.

Chaturvedi was into theatre long before he got into medicine. While he continued to pursue it alongside his MBBS, he eventually found it harder to continue it with full-time medical practice. "Standup was just picking up and it was something I could carry out on my own. Theatre required group practice which was getting harder. I decided to go with standup since that also involves playing different characters sometimes," says the doctor, whose eponymous YouTube channel has over 1 lakh subscribers. A comic awareness video on the coronavirus saw 1,62,000 views. But how does he manage comedy with a time consuming job in the medical field? Funnily enough, Bengaluru's traffic has a role to play here. "The distance between my home in Dairy Circle, and the hospital isn't much but in traffic, it takes about 45 minutes. Being stuck in a jam leaves me in a good state of mind to attempt writing. Most jokes come from a pain point and the traffic leaves me frustrated enough to do this," says Chaturvedi, who has various sketches on relationships, traffic, stories from work.

Come January and Chaturvedi is hoping to start shooting for season 2 of *Starting Troubles*. "We have five seasons planned but were unable to do so because of the pandemic. Once things get better, we will resume."

And the winners are...

• **Express Features**

The Neev Literature Festival for Children announced the winners of the 3rd edition of the Neev Book Award 2020 at an online event. It began with a keynote speech from author and philanthropist Rohini Nilekani, followed by a series of panel discussions with the authors of each of the short-listed .

The idea behind curating such an award was to introduce children to stories that mirror the world they inhabit. The publishing houses nominating children's books have grown from nine in 2018, to 15 in 2019, and 23 in 2020. The Jury began in January with a longlist of 129 titles, shortlist of 21, concluding with awards in four categories – Picture Book, Emerging Reader, Junior Reader, and Young Adult.

In the 'Picture Book', the award was given to *The Mountains of Mumbai*'s author Labanya Ghosh, illustrator Pallavi Jain and publisher Karadi Tales; the 'Emerging Reader' category award went to *Friend of Numbers*, authored by Priya Narayanan, with pictures by Satwik Gade, and published by Tulika. The winner of the 'Junior Reader' category was Venita Coelho's *All of Me*, published by Harper Collins. **Samhita Arni**'s *The Prince* published by Juggernaut won the 'Young Adult' category.

The winners in each category of the Neev Book Award 2020 were awarded a cash prize of ₹1 lakh along with a citation and trophy.

Cuteness dose

Radhika Pandit uploaded a new video on Instagram, which shows doting dad Yash singing the nursery rhyme 'Johnny, Johnny' to his son. Going by his cute expressions, Yash Jr really seems to have his parents acting genes in him!

Green touch

Aindrita Ray's version of weekend therapy seems to involve plants, plants and more... plants. The actor uploaded a video of her on Insta, where she is having the time of her life in a nursery. Move over diamonds, it looks like potted plants are this girl's best friend.

ARTSY HUB

Painting a new path

An artwork by Darshan Kumar Y U

• **Express Features**

While all initiatives going online, art requires a relationship between the onlooker and a painting, feels Darshan Kumar Y U. One can then imagine the city-based artist's joy at being able to exhibit his paintings again at Art Houz, the Vasanth Nagar-based art gallery. Called Journey II, the ongoing exhibition also features the works of 11 other artists besides Kumar. Gallery manager and curator **Jayanthi Shegar** says, "Most of the 62 works on display have been created by the artists during this period of confinement caused by the pandemic."

The exhibition, which opened on October 5, has seen about 50-60 visitors so far, with all safety precautions in place. This, however, is not the first post-lockdown show the gallery is hosting. The predecessor to Journey II, aptly named Journey I, saw works made by eminent artists like SG Vasudev, Bhaskar Rao, JMS Mani, Jasu Rawal and Gurudas Shenoy. The ongoing show, on the other hand, features the works of emerging artists instead, like Dayananda N, Suresh K, Praveen Kumar, Mukund Kumar, Venugopal VG and Sachin Sagare.

(Left-right) Artworks by Darshan Kumar Y U and Suresh K

The works have been made using different mediums like watercolours, acrylic on canvas, mixed media and others. Darshan's work, for instance, makes use of pen and paper, to create black and white artworks that depict interactions between the male and female. "The monochrome shades add clarity – there's no existence of a grey shade. Instead, it's the emotions expressed that adds layers to the artworks," explains the city-based artist, who believes gallery spaces can provide the necessary nurturing one needs for their mental health in these times.

Agrees Shegar, who also wanted to provide artists with a platform to express the emotions the pandemic had brought up. "Everything has gone virtual but things have started to move on again. And art also needs its space. I'm hoping the gallery can be an oasis where people can come, see some art, and get a break from the situation around us," she says, adding that works from the ongoing show are also on display at Mojarto, a global online platform.

The show is on display at Art Houz, Vasanth Nagar till October 25.

CANCER AWARENESS

To mark World Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Samvohana Foundation presents 'Don't Shy Away' – webinars aiming at building awareness about self breast examination and others. Registration available on BookMyShow.
When: October 18

SPORTY BINGE

Samosa party presents IPL-special specially curated samosas. Orders can be placed on SamosaParty website and other food delivery platforms.
When: During IPL

PAINTING EXPO

Gallery G and artist Dinesh Magar presents 'heaven sent', an exhibition of Magar's latest collection. Art lovers can experience a wide variety of hand painted work on brass.
When: Till October 15
Where: Gallery G

CRICKET BUZZ

To woo the cricket lovers of the city, Oakwood Premier Prestige is offering a special package for the IPL season. One can spend a night enjoying cricket matches, binging on beer and snacks, with their friends or family at the luxury of a private suite. For queries, contact: 080-22348888.
When: During IPL season
Where: Oakwood Premier Prestige

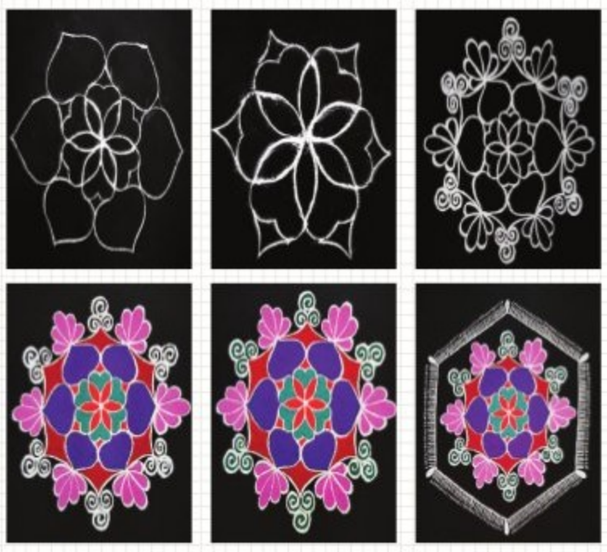
WEBINAR | FICCI FLO Chennai will host Crafting India with Padma Shri Laila Tyabji. **WHEN & WHERE:** Today at 5 pm at facebook.com/ficciflochennai/live/

DOTS & DESIGNS

HEART RANGOLI

- Draw six even petals at the centre and connect them by hearts.
- Draw inverted hearts on top of the existing design.
- Connect the hearts with curve.
- Add swirls on the pointed end of the curves.
- Fill the gap between the swirls with five-petalled flower.
- Add colours of your choice.

— Gandhimathy Senthilkumar



QUICK FIX

What's cooking

IN YOUR KITCHEN?
We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

KIWI KESARI

INGREDIENTS

Rava/sooji: 1 cup = 250 g measuring cup
Kiwi: 2 , **Ghee:** 4 tsbsp
Sugar: 1 cup (same cup used for rava)
Water: 2 cups
Cashews and raisins: 2 tbsp
Cardamom powder: 1/2 tsp

METHOD

- Peel the skin of both the kiwis and make a pulp in mixer.
- In a pan, add one tablespoon ghee and slightly roast cashews and raisins. Keep it aside.
- In the same pan, add one tablespoon ghee and roast the rava till it turns slightly golden in colour. Keep it aside.
- Now, add water and sugar in the same pan. A minute later, add two tablespoons of ghee. When the water starts boiling, slowly add the rava. Keep stirring to avoid lumps.
- Once the rava thickens a bit, add the kiwi pulp and stir gently but ensure no lumps are formed. Then, add one tablespoon of ghee, cardamom powder and the nuts. Stir for another minute or two. Switch off the gas. Serve it warm, or refrigerate if you prefer a cold kiwi kesari dessert.

— Rama R, Chennai

APPSMART

Lazy Bones

Lazy Bones turns your Apple device into a powerful daily planner, allowing you to focus on taking action towards becoming consistent in different areas of life.
Available on: iOS

Tangerine

Tangerine is your guide to daily self-care. Form habits, track your mood and journal all in one app.
Available on: iOS

Agenda

Agenda is a date-focussed note-taking app, which helps you plan and document your products. It gives a complete picture of past, present and future, driving your project forward.
Available on: iOS

FIT BIT

KASYAPASANA
(SAGE KASYAPA'S POSE)

This pose is dedicated to sage Kasyapa. He is a revered Vedic sage referenced in the 'Rigveda' as well as numerous other Sanskrit texts and mythologies, which are important in both Hindu and yogic philosophy. He's known as a self-made scholar and was based in the northwestern Indian subcontinent. This pose is an advanced variation of Vasisthasana or side plank, which requires strength, control and mobility in the hips to perform. The physical benefits of this challenging posture helps to build confidence and a sense of accomplishment because, for many, achieving it means overcoming barriers and their own expectations. On a holistic level, the posture is to have a calming effect on the solar plexus. To enhance its mental benefits, it should be performed toward the end of a yoga practise, followed by closing postures and a few minutes of meditation before Savasana.

STEPS

- First, start with Dandasana (Staff Pose).
- Then, bend your right knee and place your right heel on your left thigh.
- Now, exhale and twist your torso to your right side. Reach your right arm behind your back and grab the top of your right foot. Wrap your index and middle fingers around your big toe and press your thumb on the top of the big toe.
- At this stage, bend a little forward and then, sit up straight for a few seconds.
- Now, bend your left knee and place your heel on the floor.
- Then, press your left heel and left palm against the floor and lift your buttocks off the floor.
- Now, you can plank on your left side and point your right knee upwards.
- Balance your weight on your left heel and left palm and gaze forward.
- Stay in this pose for 3 to 6 long breaths.
- To come out of this pose, bring your hips down and release your right leg. Rest in Dandasana.
- Repeat the pose with your left leg for the same length of time.

BENEFITS

- This pose improves focus, concentration and sense of balance.
- It strengthens the wrists, elbows, shoulders, hips, ankles and feet.
- It helps to stretch the hips flexors and groin.
- It also tones the oblique muscles.
- It helps to stimulate the abdominal organs.

LIMITATIONS

- Anyone suffering from carpal tunnel syndrome, or severe wrist, elbow, shoulder, knee or ankle injuries, should avoid this.

– by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science), at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

SOUNDBOARD

THE OVERTHINK TANK

From pop-culture amd dating etiquette, human emotions to AI – each week, comedian Surbhi Bagga over-analyses, overshares and totally overcompensates all for the sake of this podcast.
- On Spotify

CITY OF WOMEN

In this podcast, the hosts explore the calculated strategies, backdoor negotiations, and often absurd lengths women go to have fun and feel free in their city. It's a fun, complex, and a bit of a joyride into the minds of women and the streets of Bengaluru.
- On Spotify

GOOD TALK

Hosts Tunde and Sam bring you the latest in the world of sports, pop culture, technology, and entrepreneurship. They also feature fascinating individuals who engage in variety of conversations that includes insights on their careers.
- On Stitcher

THE BELLAS PODCAST

The Bella twins – Nikki and Brie – go head to head in a weekly trivia battle, duke it out over juicy debate topics, kill some rumors, and answer questions tweeted from the Bella Army.
- On Stitcher

THE TRYPOD

The Try Guys have swam with sharks, survived in the wild, and risked their lives for their videos. They dissect their experiences as internet creators and best friends who have made a living failing upwards.
- On Apple Podcasts

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

GOKULATHIL SEETHAI

Rishi leads a carefree lifestyle. However, his life begins to change when he meets Nila, a college student, and gradually falls in love with her.
- Cast: Karthik, Suvalxmi, Manivannan

GURU SISHYAN

Guru and Babu meet a man who has been framed for murder. To help him and find the real culprit, Guru fractures his hand so that his death sentence can be delayed.
- Cast: Rajnikanth, Prabhu, Gautami

AGNI NATCHATHIRAM

Two stepsons of an honest noble man choose different professions. One becomes a police office and the other turns into a goon. The rest of the film revolves around how the two confront each other.
- Cast: Karthik, Prabhu, Amala, Nirosha

ANJALI

After a few years, Chitra learns that her child, who was believed to be dead, is alive but is suffering from a mental illness. However, her family faces many challenges while looking after her child.
- Cast: Raghuvaran, Revathi, Shamili

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 CAN YOU SOLVE THE GIANT CAT ARMY RIDDLE?
BY DAN FINKEL

The villainous Dr. Schrödinger has developed a growth ray and intends to create an army of giant cats to terrorise the city. Your team of secret agents has tracked him to his underground lab. You burst in to find... that it's a trap! Can you escape from Dr. Schrödinger's lair and save the day? Dan Finkel shows how.

2 WHY DO WINGS HELP YOU FLY?

How does a wing generate lift? This is the most fundamental question we ask when learning about the science of flight, and yet there is much confusion around it. Many of the popular explanations of lift are just plain wrong. Let's clear them up!

3 HOW PEOPLE RATIONALIZE FRAUD
BY KELLY RICHMOND POPE

If you ask people whether they think stealing is wrong, most of them would answer yes. And yet, in 2013, organisations lost an estimated total of $3.7 trillion to fraud. Kelly Richmond Pope explains how the fraud triangle can help us understand how seemingly good people can make unethical decisions in their daily lives.

4 THE AGONY OF OPIOID WITHDRAWAL
BY TRAVIS RIEDER

In this personal talk, Travis Rieder recounts the painful, often-hidden struggle of opioid withdrawal and reveals how doctors who are quick to prescribe (and overprescribe) opioids aren't equipped with the tools to eventually get people off the meds.

5 THE BIOLOGY OF OUR BEST AND WORST SELVES
BY ROBERT SAPOLSKY

To understand why we do what we do, neuroscientist Robert Sapolsky looks at extreme context, examining actions on timescales from seconds to millions of years before they occurred. In this talk, he shares his cutting edge research into the biology that drives our worst and best behaviours.

NOW STREAMING

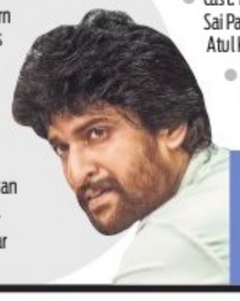
REGIONAL

DIA (Kannada)

Dia takes three years to confess her feelings to Rohith but after a terrible accident, she is told he does not survive. Later, when she starts seeing Adi, she finds out that Rohith is still alive.
- Cast: Kushi, Pruthvi Ambar
- Where to watch: Amazon PrimeVideo

JERSEY (Telugu)

Arjun, a talented but failed cricketer, decides to return to cricket in his late thirties driven by the desire to represent the Indian cricket team and fulfil his son's wish for a jersey as a gift.
- Cast: Nani, Shraddha Srinath, Harish Kalyan
- Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar



ATHIRAN (Malayalam)

Dr Nair, a psychiatrist, visits a mental asylum located in a remote location in Kerala. He meets a patient, Nithya, who is kept in isolation, and soon uncovers mysteries from her past.
- Cast: Fahadh Faasil, Sai Pallavi, Leona Lishoy, Atul Kulkarni
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

POPCORN MONKEY TIGER (Kannada)

While circumstances lead Seena, a mechanic, to become a dreaded gangster of the underworld, Devi, a popcorn seller, turns into someone she can no longer recognise due to her reality.
- Cast: Nivedhitha, Sapthami Gowda, Dhananjay
- Where to watch: Zee5

VAANAM KOTTATUM (Tamil)

A man is arrested for murder and put behind bars which leads to his family breaking apart. However, when he is released, he attempts to reconcile with his loved ones but is haunted by the past.
- Cast: Sarathkumar, Raadhika Sarathkumar, Vikram Prabhu, Madonna Sebastian
- Watch on: Amazon Prime

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

BHARJARI (Kannada)

Surya, an orphan raised by the best friend of his deceased mother, wants to become a soldier. He falls in love with a woman but soon gets an offer to join the army.
- Cast: Dhruva Sarja, Rachita Ram, Vaishali Deepak
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

FIDAA (Telugu)

Varun, an NRI medical student, and Bhanu, a vivacious, young woman, fall in love with each other. However, they face many personal differences that create complications in their relationship.
- Cast: Sai Pallavi, Varun Tej, Harshavardan Rane
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

ENGLISH

THE JUNGLE BOOK

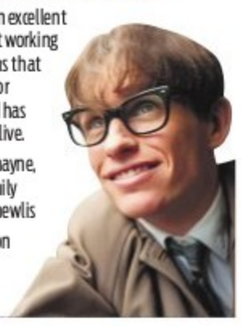
Mowgli is a boy brought up in the jungle by a pack of wolves. When Sher Khan, a tiger, threatens to kill him, a panther and a bear help him escape his clutches.
- Cast: Neel Sethi, Ben Kingsley, Jon Favreau, Scarlett Johansson
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

EMILY IN PARIS (Series)

A girl from the Midwest is hired to provide an American perspective at a marketing firm in Paris.
- Cast: Lily Collins, Ashley Park, Lucas Bravo, Camille Razat
- Watch on: Netflix

THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING

Stephen Hawking, an excellent astrophysics student working on his research, learns that he suffers from motor neurone disease and has around two years to live.
- Cast: Eddie Redmayne, Felicity Jones, Emily Watson, David Thewlis
- Watch on: Amazon Prime



THE GOOD PLACE (Series)

Eleanor, a deceased saleswoman who lived a morally corrupt life, finds herself in a heaven-like afterlife in a case of mistaken identity and tries to hide her past in order to stay there.
- Cast: Ted Danson, Kristen Bell, William Jackson Harper, Manny Jacinto, Jameela Jamil, D'Arcy Carden
- Watch on: Netflix

Amazon Prime : ₹ 129 per month
Netflix : ₹ 199 per month
Disney+Hotstar : ₹ 399 per year

Offline games, a break from scrolling

ARE YOU GAME?
Anusha Ganapathi

If 'Among Us' reached its sudden levels of popularity years after release, imagine all the other fun games we may have happily missed in the last few years! Yes, alright – this is just another free-to-play mobile games recommendation list with games dug up from the archives. But with a twist. With people getting hyper-aware of their social media consumption during these times, these games are playable Offline. While you would ideally want a digital detox, with no pixels staring at your face, I can vouch for the fact that it is better than 'doomscrolling'. Your thumbs will thank you for this new work-out. To be off-social media – you will need a new game to replace the apps. This list gives you the perfect genre substitute.

The 'Instagrams': Depending on your choice of poison, these game replacements can also be called 'Facebooks'. While occasionally filled with joyful memes, these social media apps can send you on a rabbit hole of disappointment, as you are fooled into cyber-analysing lives online. To remind you that every additional scroll holds danger in the path, try side-scrolling platformers. I recommend 'Ninja Arashi'. This game has pleasing aesthetics, a variety of cool Ninja moves – throw shurikens, camouflage yourself and upgrade skills! You face a boss at the end of each level (to remind of you the consequences of scrolling). It's amongst the few well-made platformer games for the small screen, and it is free to download on your phone.

The 'Twitters': Apart from the memes, Twitter is a place that redirects cortisol through words. If you want games that are also a pillow to scream into – turn to the Arcade genre. I played 'Fancade' this week. As Twitter jumps from topic to topic, 'Fancade' also lets you switch games with their list of over 50. The 8-bit pixel graphics are pleasing to look at, while they can get frustrating very fast. It also allows you to build your own games with their templates.

The 'Whatsapps': Manoeuvring through the web of fake news can get just as nuanced as it gets annoying. The prescription replacement is a puzzle game, that is also very peaceful in its aesthetics. I tried the 'Faraway' set of puzzle games. The game has calming music and is, without doubt, a better occupation of mental faculties.

This list is in no way exhaustive but gets all of my likes, retweets and story shares. Don't forget to turn off the internet once you download them!

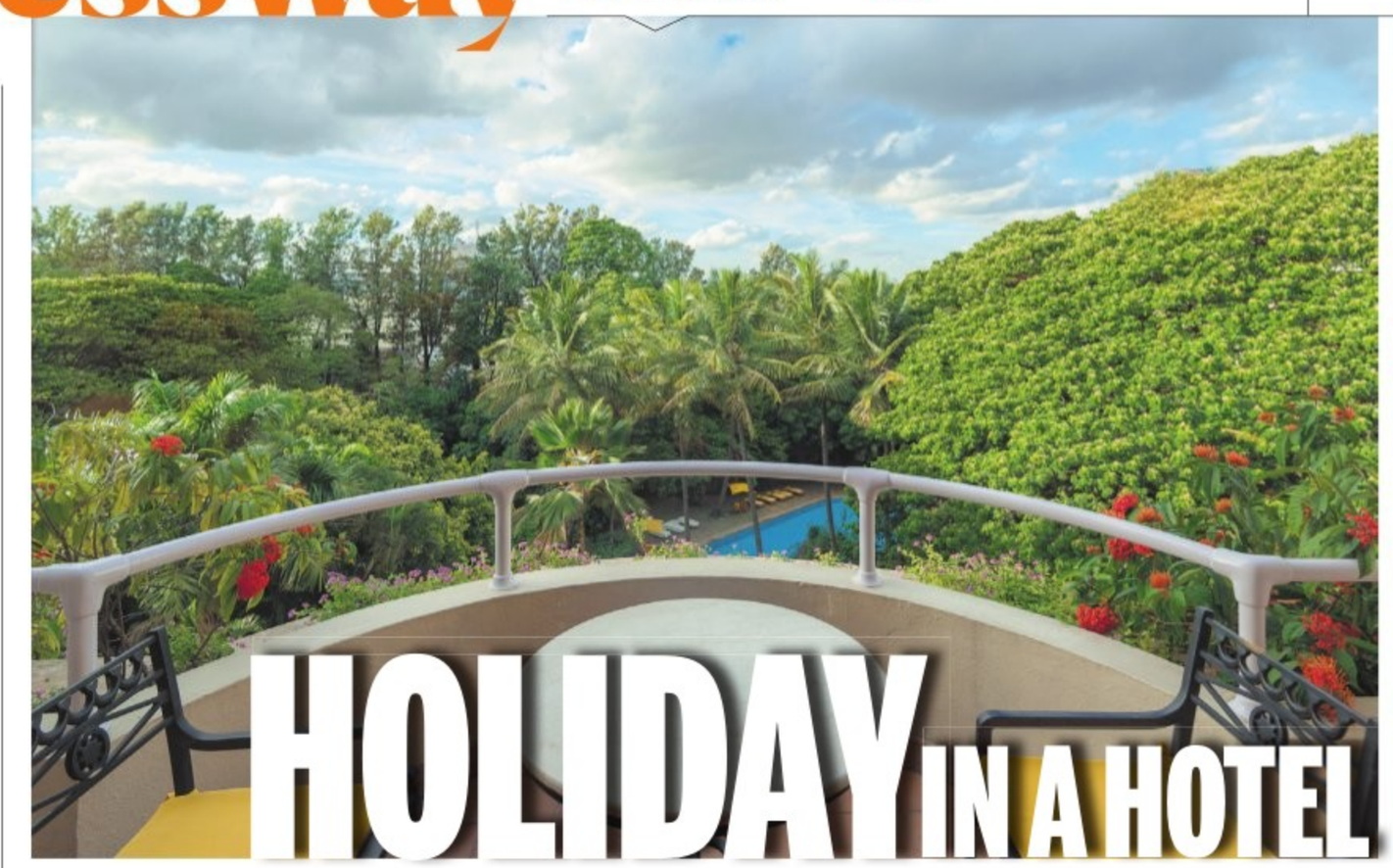
CITY READ

Over 4K graduate from REVA University

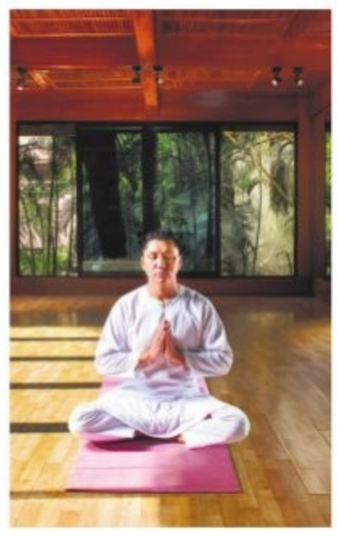
REVA University conducted its 5th annual convocation on Saturday. More than 4,000 university students graduated this year. REVA University decided to go ahead with the convocation, albeit, virtually to cope with the present pandemic circumstances. The graduation ceremony started at 2 pm on Saturday and was broadcast from Kuvempu Auditorium of Rukmini Knowledge Park. Governor of Karnataka Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala sent across his good wishes to all the graduating students and the message was read by varsity chancellor Dr P Shyama Raju. Deputy CM Dr C N Ashwath Narayan addressed the students and congratulated them through a video message.

City college observes Girl Child Day

SRN Adarsh College observed International Girl Child Day on Saturday. 'She Cell', a women's community in the college, felicitated five SSLC toppers, including Aditi Devi Prasad of National High School, Bhavana Kaushik of Vijaya High School, Malavika of MES High School, Shree Vidya of National High School, Yuktha of Shri Vinayaka High School and Bhuvanashree of Shri Vinayaka High School. In her welcome speech, the college principal, Dr Sahakuntala Samuelson, wished the achievers all the best for their future and appreciated the hard work of their parents.



HOLIDAY IN A HOTEL



Private cooking experiences, fitness retreats, and family activities are being thrown in for that extra zing on staycations, which have got a renewed importance during the pandemic

ASLAM GAFOOR

The lockdown and the fear of the virus have put spanners on travel plans, and the need of the hour is to get out for some fun and relaxation. But where do you go? International holidays are out of the question and many of us are still uncomfortable getting on a plane for a domestic leisure break. However, help is at hand in the form of hotel staycations and workations in our city or at a drivable location which can help bring back some sanity into our lives. Staycations are not a new phenomenon, however, the pandemic has given renewed importance to this concept and made hospitality folk adapt the offerings to suit the current mindset with private cooking experiences, fitness retreats and family activities thrown in for that extra zing.

The Leela Palace Bengaluru has put together an 'anniversary and birthday celebrations' package starting at ₹8,800+ which helps guests make up for special occasions which may have been missed during the pandemic. The pampering starts with a chauffeur-driven BMW car home pick-up, choice of suites during check-in, sparkling wine bottle and cake on arrival, spa indulgences at half prices, yoga sessions, high-tea and cocktails hours which more than make up for the lost moments with loved ones.

Helping overcome the challenges we face while working from home, The Den Bengaluru offers a work-vacay at the hotel to maintain work-life balance. Packages starting at ₹4,999 give you the freedom to work from the room, rejuvenate with a spa treatment, hop on to the rooftop for a dinner-with-a-view at Layla, private movie screening, fitness rituals and a cooking class for kids. The cherry on top is that the room rate gives 200% unhindered money credits which can be availed for all hotel services with no conditions attached, including spa, bar, restaurants, laundry and transport.

Your urban escape customisation takes a whole new meaning at The Oberoi Bengaluru with a romantic starlit supper under a tree or a lunch table set in the room balcony overlooking the serene gardens. Ready-to-avail packages starting at ₹4,000+ for a peaceful work-from-hotel environment or a leisure break come with three-course meals, happy hours, car transfers and yoga sessions.

The Conrad Bengaluru has introduced 'Great Small Breaks' staycation experiences starting at ₹7,250+ where you can check-in for a relaxing getaway in the heart of the city. As a bonus, there are DIY sessions on food and mixology, a beer bucket on arrival, 15-minute foot reflexology at the spa and kids get to don the chefs' hat for a special bakery session. Nothing like waking up to refreshing views of the Ulsoor Lake and the city skyline and winding down the day with a sundowner at Tiamo by the poolside while soaking in our ooru's gorgeous weather.

Meanwhile, Hilton Embassy Golf Links is promoting an IPL package starting at ₹4,999+ which includes free beers for two, complimentary snacks and breakfast. These packages can also be customised for additional guests who can earn extra hotel credits, F&B discounts, welcome amenity and interesting weekend experiences such as cooking or cocktail making classes and art sessions for kids.

Hyatt Centric MG Road is welcoming back guests with suite offers and 'The Work Pad' option equipped with unlimited tea and coffee, daily refreshments, lunch subscription plans, and high-speed internet make it a one-stop solution for a secured workspace. You can also book a room for private dining and unwind at the buzzing location featuring 'The Social Pad' and usher in the beautiful interiors and tranquillity for a getaway that nourishes your soul.

The StayCayWithMarriott brings a selection of handpicked deals at Sheraton Grand Bangalore Hotel at Brigade Gateway, Renaissance Bengaluru Race Course Hotel and JW Marriott Hotel Bengaluru packed with luxury, wellness, entertainment and fun. Packages starting at ₹7,400+ come with free beers, special evenings curated by the hotel chefs, in-room movie experiences with unlimited popcorn, complimentary room upgrade and a baking class for kids and family.

Indian Hotels Company is giving guests a 4D experience – Dream, Drive, Discover, Delight – a perfect opportunity to drive with families and friends and be one with nature. Karnataka is home to coffee plantations and dense rainforests at breathtaking destinations such as Kodagu and Chikkamagaluru. Guests can choose from exclusive villas, bungalows, cottages, or suites across hotels and resorts, including the ones in the city.

(The writer is a Bengaluru-based hospitality professional, food lover and travel enthusiast)

LOOKING AT A NEW PERSPECTIVE

Monika Monalisa

Making a new playlist for a cosy house party with friends coming over the weekend... well there is something that fits the list. **Thermal and a Quarter** just dropped a new single *Tilt*. The frontman of the band, Bruce Lee Mani says the song is of acoustic genre and is groovy, which also gives out a chill vibe.

Ask him what the song means to him, he says it's about a new perspective. "The way the world is going right now, I think we need a new perspective to look at things," says Mani, adding that the song was written on April 25. "We have been a band for 24 years now, I don't think we have ever written a song and composed anything like this. During lockdown, I just wrote the song," laughs Mani. Written in just one afternoon, the song's demos were recorded and emailed between the band members before they finally met, after three months of staying indoors. Finally in mid-September, Mani and other band members got down to do the recording.

Earlier in March, the band came out with their album World Gone Mad. "It was released days before the world's biggest lockdown was imposed in India. We were supposed to get on a seven-city, three-month tour immediately afterwards, which of course, was scuttled – thanks to Covid-19," says Mani, adding that the album sort of fits into the lives of common people. 'The album was dark and grim and people tend to relate to it more during lockdown. We never planned it that way," he adds.

While the lockdown has been frustrating for all, Mani was no exception. But he says more than anything, the biggest setback for him during this period was not being able to jam with his band members, no live gigs or interacting with live audiences. However, the band did do some corporate acts, which Mani is happy that got some revenue, but the experience was "somewhat weird" for him. The song, Mani says, is a good break from the current mood with its upbeat mood. "The common message of the song is if life gives you lemons, make lemonade out of it," he adds.

PARENTING

CODING, CLICKS & CONCERNS

MENAKA RAMAN
@menakaraman

The writer's philosophy is: if there's no blood, don't call me

Is anyone else being followed around the internet by a certain company that's peddling coding for kids? I'm sure I've never clicked on any of their ads, and yet, where ever I go, there it is: Online coding classes for kids! Grade 1-12. One of the ads show a bunch of white, blonde kids lying in the grass in a semi-circle looking joyous. Why? Because they'd just cracked For loops in Python?

I finally succumbed to the stalking ad and clicked on it this morning. I was taken to a website that greeted me with the words 'Kickstart your kid's journey to create the next billion-dollar idea of the tech world!' I scrolled down a little and was told: 'Your kid could be on the next flight to Silicon Valley, USA!' Ummm... who is sending their children on a 24 hour, trans-Atlantic flight in the middle of a pandemic?

Oh, but look, the one-of-a-kind program sends handpicked passionate early coders to Silicon Valley to meet scientists from <insert giant tech company name>. Well then, I suppose that's a good reason to board a long flight and risk Covid-19.

One package includes 'Lifetime Access' and 'Space Tech' for a little over a lakh. What is space tech? And lifetime access to what? Whatever they are, it sounds like a steal!

Entering their website is like falling down a rabbit hole of anxiety-inducing jargon. Don't you want your child to be the next Mark Zuckerberg? Umm... have y'all watched *The Social Dilemma*? Does the world really need more coders who are going to create the next big app that takes all our data and sells them to the highest bidder.

Maybe it does, what do I know? I thought AI was a terrible idea when I watched *Terminator-2* as a 12-year-old, and yet here we are, twenty eight years later, and AI is writing amazingly soothing meditation mantras for the internet (Sample: Think about the ancient proverb: To some people «nude beach» means «where lovers go to die».)

While I was smugly judging those parents who had signed their toddlers up for the advanced level 'Tech Evangelist' program, my nine-year-old came up to me and asked if he could spend some of his left over birthday money on Fortnite v-bucks. Sure I said. Five minutes later my phone pinged to let me know that my card had been used to purchase fake, multiplayer game money. I don't want to calculate how much of their inheritance my children are forking over to the founder of Fortnite. And then it hits me! Hey, what if my kids make the next multi-player game that makes children mindless zombies and turns parents into penurious nervous wrecks? What if all that fake, multiplayer game money flowed into my account as reverse inheritance? (I just made that up by the way. It's the money kids grow up and pay parents for putting up with them)

I asked my kids if they'd like to become coders and create the next big game. They said no before I could even finish asking the question. Do you think they'll let dogs sign up for the course. Woody has a lot of free time.

SMARTADS

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Southend circle: 080-26654645/46
RR nagar: 9845421111
Mahalakshmi Layout: 9986393316

SRIKANTH TO SHARE SCREEN SPACE WITH PUNEETH RAJKUMAR IN *JAMES*

The Telugu actor, who has worked in a couple of Kannada films, will be seen in a prominent role in Chethan Kumar's upcoming action commercial entertainer, bankrolled by Kishore Pathikonda

Srikanth

Puneeth Rajkumar

A Sharadhaa

James lead hero Puneeth Rajkumar, director Chethan Kumar and the team are raring to resume shoot from this week. The makers had given a hint about casting well-known artistes from Sandalwood as well as those from neighbouring states. Going by the latest buzz, the film will feature noted Telugu actor Srikanth in a prominent role. The Tollywood hero, who made his Telugu debut with *People's Encounter,* has played the lead in more than a 100 films.

Srikanth, who has also been featured in various roles -- as a villain, and as a character artiste, will be sharing screen space with the Power Star for the first time. Srikanth, also known as Meka Srikanth, made his Kannada debut was with Ravichandran's *Ugadi* in 2007. He was last seen in director Prem's *The Villain,* starring Shivarajkumar and Sudeep, and this will be his next outing in Sandalwood.

Srikanth being a part of the project will be officially announced by the team, and details about his role are yet to be revealed. "The shooting of this commercial entertainer will recommence with a fight sequence choreographed by stunt duo Ram and Lakshman. That is when Srikanth is expected to join the crew," says our source.

Puneeth, who recently completed shooting the pending song sequences for Santhosh Anandraam's, *Yuvarathnaa,* will now focus on *James*. The action-packed commercial entertainer, produced by Kishore Pathikonda has been creating the buzz just with the film's title, poster, and teaser. The team had begun shoot in February this year when they canned a fight sequence choreographed by stunt master, Ravi Varma. The director, along with his technicians, recently toured Karnataka on a recce and have finalised the locations, and are now gearing for shooting. Apart from Puneeth in the lead, and Srikanth now coming on board, the team is in the process of zeroing in on the heroine, and the rest of the actors.

The other attraction of *James* will be Charan Raj's music composition. It is the first time he is working on a film with Puneeth Rajkumar.

Sikh general Hari Singh Nalwa's life to be adapted into a web series

CE Features

Almighty Motion Picture have bought the rights to the biopic of Sikh general Hari Singh Nalwa. Hari Singh was the commander-in-chief of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's army. He suffered fatal injuries in the Battle of Jamrud (1837) fought at the mouth of the Khyber Pass between Sikh and Afghan forces.

Hari Singh's life is being adapted into a web series and a feature film. Both works will be based on the book by author Vanit Nalwa, who is a direct descendant of the general.

"Sardar Hari Singh Nalwa was the commander-in-chief of the Khalsaji (Sikh army) along the frontier with the Afghan Empire for fifteen years before he suffered fatal injuries in the Battle of Jamrud," Vanit shared. "Sardar Hari Singh Nalwa dedicated his life in the service of the Almighty, so it is very appropriate that Almighty Motion Picture has acquired the rights to the book. I am thrilled."

Producer Prabhleen Kaur expressed excitement over the acquisition, saying, "Every country of the world through the medium of visual, showcases their legends and I think it is time for us to go on front foot and not only India but the whole world should know that there were Generals like S Hari Singh Nalwa Saheb who never lost a single battle, whose territory was much bigger than that of Julius Caeser!"

Angelina Jolie, Christoph Waltz in talks for *Every Note Played*

Angelina Jolie

CE Features

Oscar winners Angelina Jolie and Christoph Waltz are in discussions to star in STX Films' upcoming feature, *Every Note Played.*

According to Deadline, the drama film is an official adaptation of author Lisa Genova's 2018 novel of the same name. The story is about a world-renowned concert pianist and composer on the verge of creating his magnum opus. When he receives a life-changing diagnosis, his estranged ex-wife takes up the cross of caring for him, and he is forced to balance reconciling his failed relationships with redefining his pursuit of greatness.

Every Note Played will be directed by Michael Sucsy, who previously helmed films such as The Vow and Every Day.

Monet Clayton, Richard Barton Lewis, and Gabrielle Jerou will produce the project.

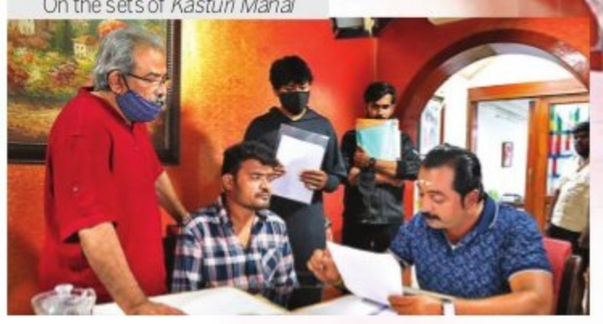
Kasturi Mahal shooting goes on at brisk pace

CE Features

The shooting of director Dinesh Baboo's 50th film, *Kasturi Mahal* is currently going on at brisk pace. The major portions were shot in Kottigehara amidst nature. The film, which bankrolled from October 5, shared fresh stills from the sets, featuring protagonist Shanvi Srivastava. Wearing a half saree, the traditional beauty will be seen in a unique role once again after *Avane Srimannarayana*.

Skanda Ashok and Ninasam Ashwath are also participating in the shoot that features Shruti Prakash and Rangayana Raghu. Dinesh, who has written the story, screenplay and dialogues is coming up with a paranormal thriller, based on a true incident derived from his personal experience. *Kasturi Mahal,* made under the banner Sri Bhavani Arts, has music composed by Gumineni Vijay and cinematography by PKH Dass.

On the sets of *Kasturi Mahal*

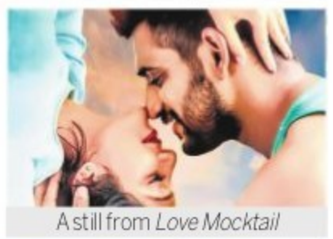


Shanvi Srivastava

Showtime back in Sandalwood as it's raining re-releases

With theatres reopening from October 16, a bunch of Kannada films — *Love Moctkail, Shivaji Surathkal, Shivarjuna, Dia, Gentleman* — will see a rerun at the box office

A still from *Shivaji Surathkal*


A still from *Love Mocktail*

A still from *Shivarjuna*

CE Features

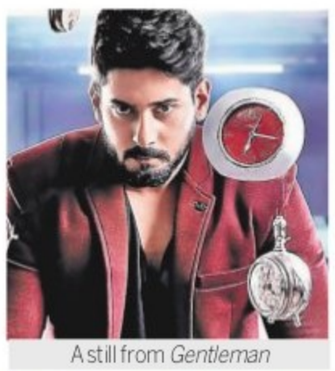
Showtime begins at cinema halls across Karnataka from October 15. Get ready with your masks and watch for rereleases at your nearest theatres. However, the status of big-star film releases is still a distant thought. Around five movies, all of which were released earlier this year just before lockdown, are raring to hit back the screens. The makers of Krishna's directorial debut, *Love Mocktail* were among the first to announce the rerelease of the film on October 16. Chiranjeevi Sarja's last film *Shivarjuna,* directed by Shiva Tejas, and bankrolled by Shivarjuna, will be back in theatres from October 16.

The makers of Ramesh Aravind-starrer *Shivaji Surathkal,* directed by Akash Srivatsa, have also announced their return to theatres from October 15. It will be followed with director K S Ashoka's romantic thriller, *Dia,* which is produced by Krishna Chaitanya. It stars Pruthvi Ambar and Kushi, and will be out for Dasara. Prajwal Devaraj-starrer *Gentleman*, directed by Jadesh Kumar, will rerelease on October 23. *Love Mocktail, Dia, and Shivaji Surathkal* had a good run on OTT platforms, while Gentleman was telecast on TV.

Producer Jack Manju had mentioned that bringing back *Love Mocktail* was to testing waters, and to gauge the audience's reaction and readiness to return to theatres. Krishna Chaitanya says that *Dia* is being released on demand, and an extra song will be an addition in the film, which will also be another attraction for moviegoers. "There is a resolution behind every artistic endeavour. Through filmmaking, into which we put into a lot of effort, we want to connect with the audience at a deeper level. We feel a sense of gratitude with the rerelease of *Dia*," he says.

LUCKY FIRST

Meanwhile, Nandalika Nityananda Prabhu, the writer, director, and producer of Kannada film *5 Adi 7 Angula* is set to release his film on October 16. The team has officially announced this through an advertisement. The film will be released at Triveni, KG Road, and in various multiplexes across Karnataka.


A still from *Gentleman*

A still from *Dia*